



[sen]
zyouya no chigiri
okadaya tetuzoh

岡田屋鉄蔵

長夜の契



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An illustration of a man with a shaved head, wearing a yellowish-brown robe over a dark garment, and dark trousers. He is holding a long, thin staff or walking stick. The background is dark and moody. The title text is overlaid on the image.

岡田屋鉄蔵

長夜の契

[sen] zyouya no chigiri
(episode 1)
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:
anonymous

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names and places, episode 1

Kusanagi Chikara (草薙主税) ronin, master swordsman
Sensai (千載, literal meaning 1000 years)

Akiyoshi (章義), Kikuhime's betrothed, from Sakanokuni
Harada Tatsuyoshi (原田辰芳) guardian of Torachiyo, (the "Tatsu"
in his name, 辰, means dragon)

Kikuhime (菊姫), princess from Kusanokuni, betrothed to Akiyoshi
Masaomi (陸奥守) king of Kusanokuni

Torachiyo (虎千代) Kikuhime's younger brother

Yoshi Daizen (吉井大善) minister from Kusanokuni

Kusanokuni: country of Kikuhime, Torachiyo, etc.

Sakanokuni: country of Akiyoshi

Haginokuni: country of Harada Tatsuyoshi's clan

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WHAT I WANT...

SCRAPE

I'LL
BUY
YOUR
SOUL.

ahh

ahh

ahh

...WHO...

WHO
ARE
YOU...

ahh

ahh

FW SHH





第一話

FW SHH
ア ア ア ア

KUSANOKUNI
FLOURISHED
UNDER THE
RULE OF A
VIRTUOUS
KING.

PEOPLE
HAD
SURVIVED
THE AGE
OF WAR.

THE
WORLD...
WAS AT
PEACE.

SONS IN
THE YOUNGER
GENERATION
WERE RAPIDLY
WEAKENING.



IN ORDER TO RESTORE
AND PROTECT THE
STRENGTH OF THE
NATION, AN OFFER OF
ALLIANCE WAS MADE
TO THE MIGHTY
NEIGHBORING KING-
DOM OF SAKANOKUNI.

AS A CONDITION OF
ALLIANCE, SAKANOKUNI
REQUESTED A MATCH
BETWEEN THEIR OWN
SECOND SON AKIYOSHI
AND KUSANOKUNI'S
BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS
KIKUHIME.

WITHIN
THE YEAR,
KIKUHIME
WAS BEING
MARRIED.







BUT HE
LOOKS SO
YOUNG.

DIS-
PATCHED
FROM THE
TODOZA?

HE WAS
DISPATCHED
FROM THE
TODOZA TO
SUPERVISE
THE HEALTH
OF THE PRIN-
CESS ON HER
JOURNEY.

BY ORDER
OF SAKA-
NOKUNI.

<Todoza: a Japanese guild for blind men. Members were often itinerant musicians, masseurs, or acupuncturists.>



HMP?

...THAT
SENSAIDOMO,
WHY IS
HE HERE?

MINIS-
TER...



EVEN IF
HE'S JUST
A DISTRACTION,
SHE
APPRECIATES HIM.

BESIDES,
THANKS TO
HIS APPEAR-
ANCE, THE
PRINCESS
SEEMS TO
FAVOR HIM.

DON'T
JUDGE
A BOOK
BY ITS
COVER.



FROM
PRINCESS
KIKUHIME.

I UNDER-
STAND
THEY'RE
SWEETS.
TO HELP YOU
RECOVER
FROM YOUR
FATIGUE.



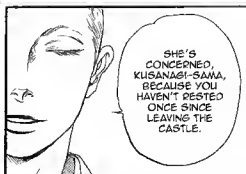
WHAT'S
THAT?

KUSA-
NAGI-
SAMA.

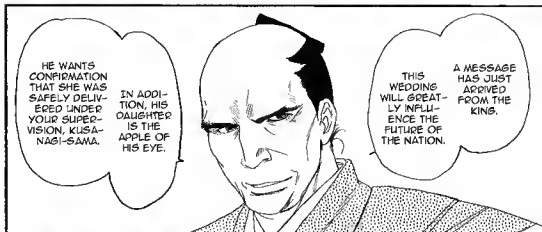


TAP

TAP









...
STILL...

HOW
ODD



IT'S A
PRISONER
CONVOY.

ALL THESE
GUARDS...
THIS IS NO
BRIDAL PRO-
CESSION.



AS ONE
WOULD
EXPECT,
KUSANAGI-
DOMO...

...YOUR
INTU-
ITION IS
GOOD.

WHAT
ARE YOU...
SENSAI-
DOMO



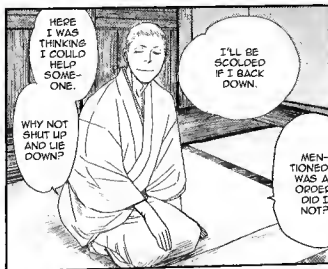
KIKUHIME-SAMA HAS ORDERED ME TO MASSAGE AWAY YOUR FATIGUE, KUSANAGI-SAMA.

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

UH...

SPARE ME THE "DOMO."

JUST "SENSAI" WILL DO.



HERE I WAS THINKING I COULD HELP SOMEONE.

WHY NOT SHUT UP AND LIE DOWN?

I'LL BE SCOLDED IF I BACK DOWN.

THAT'S NOT NECESSARY.

I...

MENTIONED IT WAS AN ORDER, DID I NOT?



NAH.



BUT YOU CAN SEE, CAN'T YOU.

UNLIKE THOSE WHO CAN SEE, I WAS NEVER TAUGHT SOCIAL DECORUM.

Smirk



PUSHY.



HA...
I'M NO
MATCH
FOR THE
MASTER
SWORDS-
MAN.

WELL,
I REALLY
CAN'T SEE
OUT OF
THIS EYE.

EVENTU-
ALLY IT
WILL BE
NEITHER.



EH?



I'VE
FELT
YOUR
GAZE.



THEN
JUST A
LITTLE,
I GUESS.

ALRIGHT,
ALRIGHT.



I SEE.
FORGIVE
ME.

IT'S IN MY
NATURE TO
CHECK ON
ANY SMALL
DETAIL THAT
CATCHES MY
ATTENTION.

NO, IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.
COME, COME,
LIE DOWN.



UHHN...

UHHN...

AHH...



AHH...

THIS IS...

...PRETTY...



YEAH... IT REALLY...

...FEELS GOOD.



LIKE IT?



AHH...

WHAT?
I'M JUST
A RONIN.

COMPLI-
MENTED
BY THE
RENOWNED
MASTER
SWORDS-
MAN-DOMO.
HOW EM-
BARRASS-
ING.



SO WHY
HAVEN'T
YOU
SERVED
BEFORE?

WHEN IT COMES
TO SWORDSMEN,
EVERYONE KNOWS
KUSANAGI CHIKARA
IS A GREAT MASTER.

THAT'S
RIGHT.
THERE'S
NO REASON
TO REFUSE.

HM?



SURE,
NOW.

BUT A
LITTLE BIRD
TELLS ME...

YOU'RE
PLANNING
TO SERVE
KUSANO-
KUNI.



...
I
COULDN'T.



I GUESS
AT LAST I'LL
ACHIEVE THE
TRUE PUR-
POSE OF A
SAMURAI.

I THOUGHT
I'D COME TO
AN END NEVER
FINDING A
MASTER TO
SERVE, BUT...

THAT'S
NOT
TRUE!

NOWADAYS
IT SEEMS I'M
ONLY USEFUL
AS A BODY-
GUARD.

NOT
WHEN THE
WORLD
WAS AT
WAR,
ANYWAY.



A
SAMURAI,
HUH?

WHAT A
WASTE.



...SERVING
SUCH A
BRUTE.

SOME-
ONE LIKE
YOU, KU-
SANAGI-
SAMA...



BRUTE?

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN BY
THAT?



THE MIN-
ISTER?
WHY?

MINISTER
YOSHI
HAS BEEN
OUTSIDE
THE DOOR
FOR SOME
TIME...

ASSESS-
ING THE
SITUATION.
WHAT
NERVE.

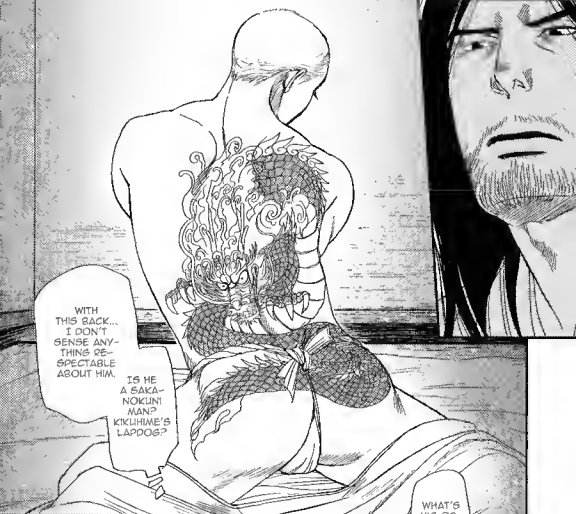


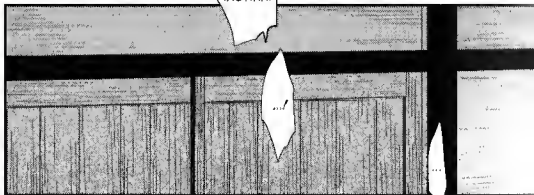
SHH...

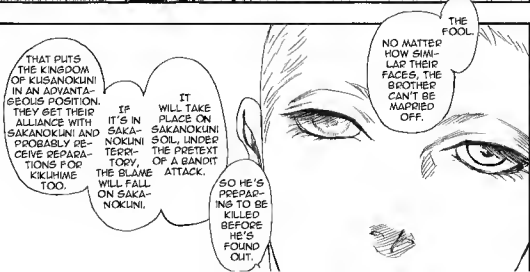
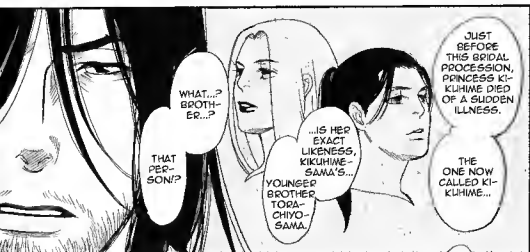
KEEP
YOUR
VOICE
DOWN.













IT'S HARD
TO SWAL-
LOW SO
SUDDENLY



YOU'LL BE
KEPT AS A
PAWN TO
REPORT IT
ALL TO BOTH
COUNTRIES.

ONCE
YOUR ROLE
AS WITNESS
IS OVER,
THE GUARDS
WILL BE
DEEMED RE-
SPONSIBLE.

IT'S NOT
FAR-FETCHED
THAT KUSANAGI
CHIKARA
WOULD SUR-
VIVE A GANG
OF THIEVES.

THEN IT'S
SEPPUKU!
IF YOU'RE
LUCKY, OR
YOU'LL BE
BEHEADED,
IF WORST
COMES TO
WORST.



TA-
TSU

TAT-
SUYO-
SHI...

I HAVE
TO FOLLOW
MY OLDER
BROTHER'S
ORDERS,
EVEN IF YOU
END UP HURT.

YOU'RE
INJURED
SO BADLY...
BECAUSE
OF ME.
TATSU...!



TORACHIYO-
SAMA...
I MUST
GO ON...
I WON'T
GIVE UP.

THAT'S
ENOUGH
NOW.



TORA-
CHIYO-
SAMA...!



TA-
TSU...

TA...

MM...



TA-
TSU...



COME
WHAT
MAY, I
WON'T
GIVE
UP.

TORA-
CHIYO-
SAMA!

COME
WHAT
MAY...



WHETHER
I LIVE
OR DIE...

I SWEAR
TO YOU...



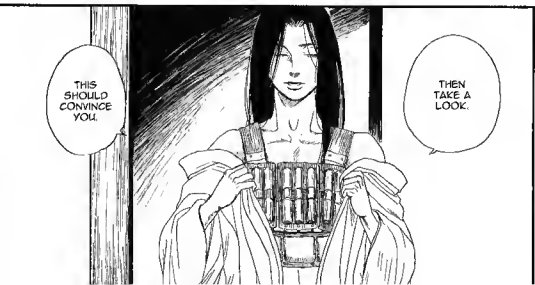
...PROTECT
YOU,
TORACHI-
YO-SAMA.

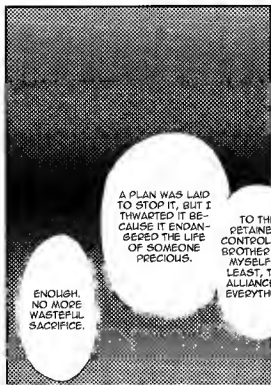
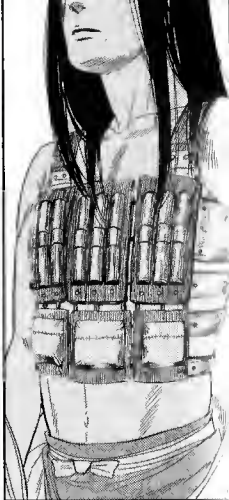
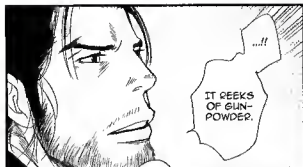
WHAT-
EVER BE-
COMES
OF MY
BODY...

I WILL
ALWAYS...



TORA-
CHIYO-
SAMA?











DON'T
WORRY.

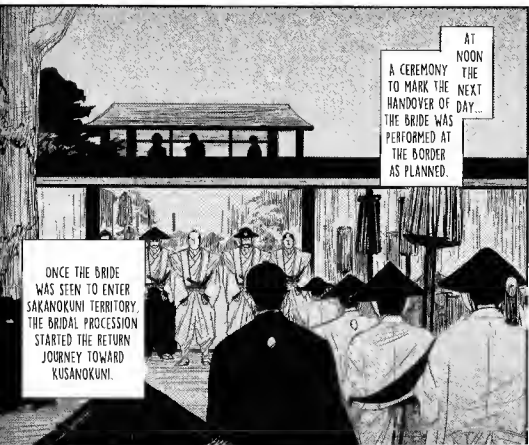
YOU'LL
GET
AWAY
THIS
TIME.

WE'LL
PROTECT
YOU
WITHOUT
FAIL.

WITHOUT
FAIL.



TORA-
CHIYO-
SAMA.



AT
NOON
THE
NEXT
DAY...

A CEREMONY
TO MARK THE
HANDOVER OF
THE BRIDE WAS
PERFORMED AT
THE BORDER
AS PLANNED.

ONCE THE BRIDE
WAS SEEN TO ENTER
SAKANOKUNI TERRITORY,
THE BRIDAL PROCESSION
STARTED THE RETURN
JOURNEY TOWARD
KUSANOKUNI.



EXCEPT
FOR SOME.



DRESSED AS
BANDITS, MINISTER
YOSHI DAIZEN AND
HIS MEN FOLLOWED
THE BRIDAL PARTY
ACROSS THE
BORDER.

THE FRONT
AND REAR OF
HIS GROUP
SPLIT IN TWO
TO CUT OFF
RETREAT.



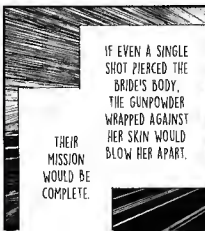
UNDER THE
SUDDEN ATTACK,
UNABLE TO
ADVANCE OR
RETREAT, THE
BRIDAL PARTY
WAS IN CHAOS.



RESISTING
IN VAIN, THE
ESCORT GUARDS
WERE SOON
ANNIHILATED.



GUN MUZZLES
TRAINED ON THE
BRIDE'S PALAN-
QUIN ALL BELCHED
FIRE AT ONCE.



IF EVEN A SINGLE
SHOT PIERCED THE
BRIDE'S BODY,
THE GUNPOWDER
WRAPPED AGAINST
HER SKIN WOULD
BLOW HER APART.

THEIR
MISSION
WOULD BE
COMPLETE.



WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

DAWN!
EMPTY!



WHAT!?

!?

BUT THERE
WAS NO
EXPLOSION.



GO
SEARCH-

IDIOT! SHE
DIDN'T JUST
VANISH INTO
THIN AIR!



YOU TWO
JOIN THEIR
PARTY AND
AIM FOR
HASNOKUNI
TOGETHER.

IT'S THE CLAN
OF TORACHIYA-
SAMA'S GUAR-
DIAN, HARADA
TATSUYOSHI-
SAMA.

...WHO
ARE
THEY!?

THE
ALLIES
STAND-
ING BY...

ALONG
THE RIVER
ON THE
BORDER...

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU,
SENSAI?





I WILL!
DON'T
DIE,
SENSAI!!



MAKE
SURE YOU
PROTECT
HIM!!



I HAVE
THINGS
TO DO.

WHAAAT!?
THERE'S
NO WAY
I'LL DIE.



...KEEP
UP MY
END OF
THE CON-
TRACT.

I
MUST...



WELL,
WELL, IF
IT ISN'T
SENSAI.



BE
A GOOD
BOY AND
TELL ME
WHERE
THEY'VE
GONE, AND
I'LL GIVE YOU
AN EASY
DEATH.

BUT WHAT
CAN YOU DO
ON YOUR
OWN WHEN
YOU'RE SO
FAR OUT-
NUMBERED?

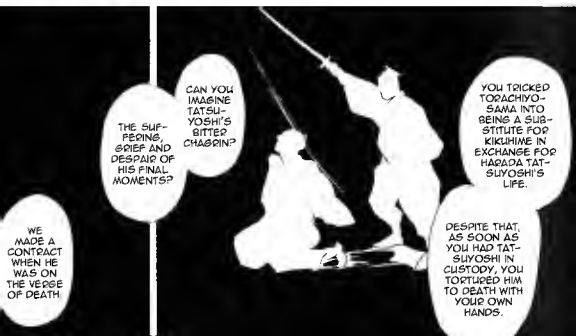
YOU
HAD ME
FOOLED.

DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'RE
ONE OF
HARADA'S
RESIS-
TORS.



YOSHI
THE
LIAR.

I DON'T
BELIEVE
A WORD
YOU SAY,
BASTARD.



THE SUF-
FERING,
GRIEF AND
DESPAIR OF
HIS FINAL
MOMENTS?

CAN YOU
IMAGINE
TATSU-
YOSHI'S
BITTER
CHAGRIN?

YOU TRICKED
TORACHIYO-
SAMA INTO
BEING A SUB-
STITUTE FOR
KIKUHIIME IN
EXCHANGE FOR
HARADA TAT-
SUYOSHI'S
LIFE.

DESPITE THAT,
AS SOON AS
YOU HAD TAT-
SUYOSHI IN
CUSTODY, YOU
TORTURED HIM
TO DEATH WITH
YOUR OWN
HANDS.

WE
MADE A
CONTRACT
WHEN HE
WAS ON THE
VERGE OF
DEATH.



IF YOU
LET ME
EAT YOUR
SOUL...

I'LL
GRANT
ANYTHING
YOU
WISH

EAT...

MY
SOUL?



WHO
ARE
YOU?

I'LL
BUY
YOUR
SOUL.



THAT IS TO
HAVE YOUR
SOUL EATEN

ALL PROOF
AND EVERY
MEMORY OF
YOUR EXIS-
TENCE WILL
BE WIPED
AWAY

YOU WILL NOT
TRANSMIGRATE
FROM YOUR
CURRENT FORM

IN RETURN,
IF THERE'S
SOMETHING
YOU WISH
FOR...



...ETERNAL
HELL.

MY AFTER-
LIFE WILL
BE...

IF I
CAN'T
PROTECT
HIM IN
THIS
WORLD...

I DO
HAVE
A
WISH.

PLEASE
GRANT
IT.



FOR
THE
CON-
TRACT.



ROAR

CRACKLE



WHA-

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT!?

A
DRA-
GON!?





KUSANAGI
DELIVERED
TORACHIYO TO
THE VILLAGE OF
THE HARADA
CLAN.

RUSHING BACK TO
THE BATTLEFIELD,
HE FOUND YOSHII'S
MEN SCATTERED IN
EVERY DIRECTION,
MANGLED BEYOND
RECOGNITION.

IN THE MIDST OF
THAT HELLSCAPE
ONLY SENSAI
WAS UNSCATHED,
SITTING NAKED
AS THE DAY HE
WAS BORN.

THE SINISTER
DRAGON THAT
ONCE LAID CLAIM
TO HIS BACK HAD
VANISHED WITH-
OUT A TRACE.

SEN-
SAI...

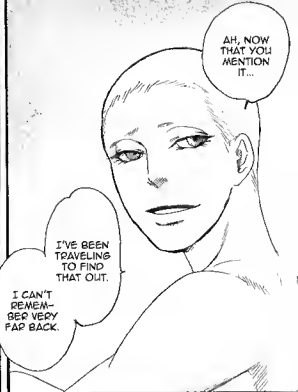
HUH? THAT
DRAGON ON
YOUR...?

WHAT
EXACTLY
HAPPENED?

WHAT
HAPPENED,
YOU ASK?



AFTER
THAT...



AH, NOW
THAT YOU
MENTION
IT...

I'VE BEEN
TRAVELING
TO FIND
THAT OUT.

I CAN'T
REMEM-
BER VERY
FAR BACK.

THAT CONDITION
WAS THE HEAD OF
KING MASAOMI'S
CHIEF MINISTER.



...AKIYOSHI OF
SAKANOKUNI
WAS TOLD
THE TRUTH
REGARDING
TORACHIYO.

HE SWORE
TO JOIN THE
ALLIANCE AND
NOT RETALIATE
AGAINST KUSA-
NOKUNI UNDER
ONE CONDITION.

"YOUR REAL
SAVIOR IS
HARADA
TATSUYOSHI-
DOMO."

EVEN THOUGH
HE INSISTED,
NOT A SINGLE
PERSON KNEW
THE NAME.

TORACHIYO
CALLED ON
HIS SAVIOR,
KUSANAGI
CHIKARA, TO BE
CHIEF RETAINER,
BUT HE DECLINED.

THE NEW KING WENT
INTO EXILE. TORACHIYO
WAS WELCOMED AND
REIGNED BENEVOLENTLY
OVER THE COUNTRY
UNDER THE GUARDIAN-
SHIP OF SAKANOKUNI
AND THE HARADA CLAN.



[sen] zyouya no chigiri
(episode 2)
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:
anonymous

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if you are able to.

names and places, episode 2

Kusanagi Chikara (草薙主税) ronin, master swordsman
Sensai (千載, literal meaning 1000 years)

Kanetsugu (包次) injured troupe shamisen player
Kaneyasu (包保) music maestro

Kinzo (金造) main performer of "Kinzo Kabuki,"
aka "Zacho," (leader of the troupe),
aka "Kinoji" (金の字), a nickname

Mutsunokami (陸奥守), king of Okunokuni (奥の国)



...WHAT
ARE YOU
THINKING
ABOUT?



HMP?
MM...



THE
SKY.

THE
SKY?



IT'S
DEEP
RED.

LIKE IT'S
ON FIRE.



WHAT'S
WRONG?





ROBBED?
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

DO
YOU
HATE
ME?
I
ROBBED
YOU OF
EVERY-
THING.



...!

I HAVEN'T
LOST ANY-
THING.

EVERYTHING
AT THE TEMPLE
BELONGS TO
THE GODS.



YOU'RE
THE ONLY
THING THAT
BELONGS
TO ME.



...BE
THE ONE
TO SAY
THAT.

LET
ME...

LET
ME BE
THE
ONE...
THE
GODS
PUN-
ISH

第二話

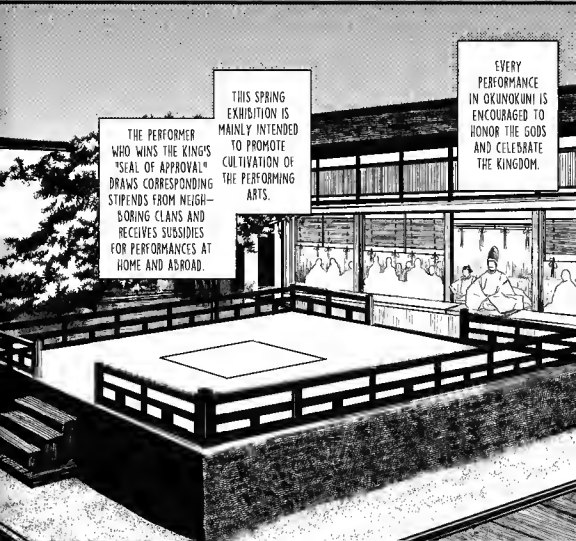


...IN ORDER
TO DISPLAY
THEIR POLISHED
SKILLS BEFORE
KING MUTSU-
NOKAMI.



IN
OKUNOKUNI,
BIRTHPLACE
OF KAGURA,
PERFORMERS
GATHER
FROM ALL
OVER THE
COUNTRY
EVERY
SPRING...

<kagura, "god-entertainment," is a type of Shinto theatrical dance.>



THE PERFORMER
WHO WINS THE KING'S
"SEAL OF APPROVAL"
DRAWS CORRESPONDING
STIPENDS FROM NEIGH-
BORING CLANS AND
RECEIVES SUBSIDIES
FOR PERFORMANCES AT
HOME AND ABROAD.

THIS SPRING
EXHIBITION IS
MAINLY INTENDED
TO PROMOTE
CULTIVATION OF
THE PERFORMING
ARTS.

EVERY
PERFORMANCE
IN OKUNOKUNI IS
ENCOURAGED TO
HONOR THE GODS
AND CELEBRATE
THE KINGDOM.

THIS YEAR
THE TOWN ONCE
AGAIN GREW
VERY CROWDED
AS PERFORMERS
ARRIVED ONE
AFTER ANOTHER.













DID YOU
FIND A
HOTEL?

YOU'RE
BACK,
DANNA.

HE'S
WITH
ME.

HMP
WHAT IS IT?



YOU KNOW
HIM, SAMU-
RAI SIR?!

<"Danna" is a respectful honorific.>



MM, WE HAVE
NO CHOICE.
I'LL GO FIND
STRAW MATS
SOMEWHERE.

!!!

WELL
ACTUALLY,
THEY'RE
FULL UP.

I
KNEW
IT.

THIS TIME OF
YEAR IS TERRIBLE
IN OKUNOKUNI.
WE'LL HAVE TO SLEEP
UNDER THE BRIDGE,
DANNA.



WHO
ARE
YOU?

IF
YOU'D
LIKE,
COME TO
THE INN
WHERE MY
TROUPE IS
STAYING!

YOU
CAN GET
A ROOM
THERE.

UH...

EXCUSE
ME!



<zacho: leader of a dance or theatrical troupe.>



<The suffix "-noji" is used in nicknames.>



<zato: blind man>





IT WILL
SURELY
PLEASE
THE KING
TOO.

ONLY
KINZO
CAN DO IT
JUSTICE
ON THE
STAGE.

THIS
PROGRAM
TOO IS A
TOUR DE
FORCE, WRIT-
TEN ESPECIALLY
FOR KINZO BY
THE MAE-
STRO.

THERE'S
NO COM-
PARISON
WITH EV-
ERYONE
ELSE'S
SHODDY
ACTS.



YES, THANKS
TO HIM IT HAS
COME TO BE
CALLED THAT
LATELY.

WELL ANYWAY,
OUR PERFORM-
ANCES ARE
SIMPLY UNLIKE
ANYTHING THAT
CAN BE SEEN
ELSEWHERE.



MAESTRO
IS ALMOST
BEDRIDDEN,
SUFFERING
FROM A LONG
TERM ILLNESS,
AND CAN'T GO
ONSTAGE,
SO WE DIDN'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO.

AND THEN
THIS GOES
AND HAP-
PENS TO
MY ARM.

Oww~

IT'S
JUST BEEN
COMPLETED
AND IT'S
A FAIRLY
DIFFICULT
PIECE.

ONLY
MAESTRO
AND I HAVE
PLAYED IT
THROUGH.



SLIDE

IF YOU CAN
ANTICIPATE
KINZO, YOU
PROBABLY
WON'T GO
WRONG.



...I
HAVEN'T
EVEN
HEARD
THE MUSIC
YET...
AND WHO
KNOWS IF
MY SKILLS
WILL LIVE
UP TO
YOUR EX-
PECTA-
TIONS?

IF WE
HADN'T MET
SENSAI-SAN,
WE WOULD
HAVE BEEN
STUCK WITH
AWFUL AC-
COMPANIMENT.

WELL,
NOW...



MAE-STRO!

MAESTRO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING
UP?



WHEN
IT COMES
TO THE TRADI-
TIONAL ARTS,
KINZO IS IN
THE REALM OF
THE GODS.



KANETSU-
SU, YOU DID
AN ADMI-
RABLE JOB
OF PRO-
TECTING
KINZO.

MAE-
STRO...

I HEARD
WHAT YOU
WERE SAYING.
THE TWO OF
YOU WENT
THROUGH AN
AWFUL ORDEAL
WHILE I WAS
STUCK IN
BED.

IT WAS
TER-
RIBLE.



NO
APOL-
OGY IS
NECES-
SARY.
WE'VE
HEARD ABOUT
YOUR PRO-
TRACTED ILL-
NESS. PLEASE
TAKE CARE OF
YOURSELF.

I APOLO-
GIZE FOR
MY UN-
SIGHTLY
APPEAR-
ANCE BUT
KINDLY
OVER-
LOOK IT.

I AM
ZASU
KANEYA-
SU



SEN-
SAI-
SAN!

YOU
HAVE A
LENGTHY
WORK TO
MEMORIZE

SO IF YOU
WOULD, GIVE
ME SOME
TIME EARLY
TOMORROW



YOUR ROOM
IS READY.
PLEASE
REST WELL
TONIGHT.

ALRIGHT,
THANK
YOU.



YES,
THAT'S
FINE.

TO RE-
HEARSE
THE MUSIC
WITH YOU?



SEE
YOU
IN
THE
MORN-
ING.

OH!

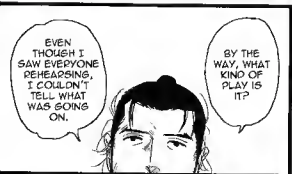
KUSA-
NASHI-
SANAHA?





IT'S FRUSTRATING BUT I LIKE HIS PLAYING MUCH BETTER

HE HAS A UNIQUE STYLE DIFFERENT FROM ANY SCHOOL BUT... IT COMPLEMENTS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PLAY RATHER NICELY



EVEN THOUGH I SAW EVERYONE REHEARSING, I COULDN'T TELL WHAT WAS GOING ON.

BY THE WAY, WHAT KIND OF PLAY IS IT?



TO MY SURPRISE, HE BASICALLY HAS IT FIGURED OUT!

I HAD A GLIMPSE OF THE SITUATION A LITTLE WHILE AGO.

AND SENSAI ON SHAMISEN... WILL HE DO?



A YOUNG LADY FALLS IN LOVE WITH A MONK AND GOES INTO THE TEMPLE TO MEET HIM IN SECRET

BEFORE HE KNOWS IT, THE MONK IS ATTACHED TO THE YOUNG LADY AS WELL AND THEY DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP

DAY BY DAY, THE YOUNG LADY'S FEELINGS GROW STRONGER, BUT THE MONK REMAINS IN THE TEMPLE.

THE DAYS PASS WITH NO RENDEZVOUS AND PLAGUED BY DOUBTS, THE YOUNG LADY TURNS INTO A DEMON AND SETS FIRE TO THE TEMPLE.



Ha ha ha!

BECAUSE REHEARSAL IS DONE IN SMALL SEGMENTS.

I HEAR IT'S BASED ON A TRUE STORY FROM ANCIENT TIMES.

IN NO TIME
AT ALL THE
TEMPLE IS
DEVOURED
BY FLAMES

THE YOUNG
LADY WHO HAS
TURNED INTO A
DEMON DOESN'T
KNOW SHE HAS
KILLED THE
MONK.

THE BELOVED
MONK IS ALSO
BURNED ALIVE

SHE CARRIES
ON SEARCHING
FOR THE MONK
FOREVER, WRITH-
ING IN AGONY
IN THE FLAMES,
INHABITING A
BODY THAT
CANNOT DIE.





COME ON,
THIS IS
EMBARRASSING.

I'M FAMILIAR
WITH A PLAY-
HOUSE WHERE
TALENTED
YOUNG
ACTORS...

I'M
JUST IM-
PRESSED.

WERE
ROUTINELY
BULLIED
BY THEIR
PEERS AND
ELDERS.

BUT HERE,
YOU AND ALL
THOSE NICE
KIDS IN THE
TROUPE ARE
HAPPY TO
BOAST OF
KINZO.



HE'S
GENERALLY
A SPOILED,
SELF-CENTERED
BRAT, BUT...

THERE'S
NOT A TRACE
OF THAT
TOWARD
KINZO.

OF COURSE
ENVY IS PRA-
CTICALLY OUR
BUSINESS,
BUT...



NO,
I UN-
DER-
STAND

I'M
TRAVEL-
ING WITH
SOME-
ONE LIKE
THAT.



IT'S DIFFI-
CULT TO
EXPLAIN.

UP THERE,
HE'S DIF-
FERENT
FROM AN
ORDINARY
PERSON.

...ONCE
HE STEPS
ONSTAGE,
I DON'T
KNOW WHY,
BUT HE'S
MESMERIZ-
ING.





STRANGE?
STRANGE
HOW?



EHP

WHAT
HAP-
PENEOP
YOU
LOOK
STRANGE



OI...

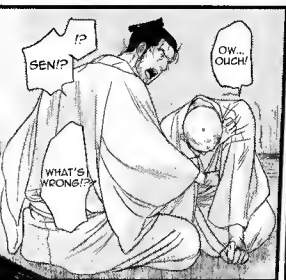
SEN-
SAI...



...YOU'RE
GLOWING.

FOR
ONE
THING...





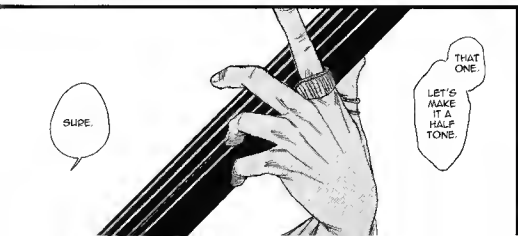


KA-
NETSLI-
SU?

YOU
MADE
A CON-
TRACT?
WITH
WHOM?

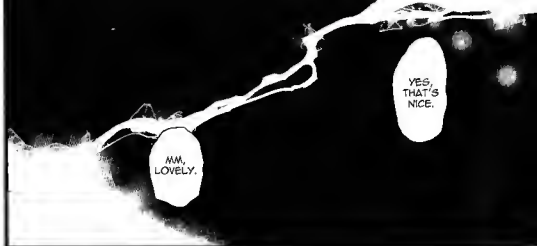


...
...
WITH A
SINNER?



SUPE.

THAT
ONE.
LET'S
MAKE
IT A
HALF
TONE.





I BECAME 11L
THREE YEARS
AGO AND IT
MADE ME
LIKE THIS.

I'LL BE
28 THIS
YEAR.



AND
YOU...
YOU'RE
MUCH
YOUNG-
ER THAN
YOU
LOOK.



PUN-
ISHMENT
FOR
STEAL-
ING THE
GODS
TREA-
SURE

IT'S...
A TALE
FROM
LONG,
LONG
AGO.



DIVINE
PUNISH-
MENT

YES.



YOU
WON'T
RE-
COVER?

IT'S
DIVINE
PUNISH-
MENT.



I MET A BOY
IN THIS LAND
WHO DANCED IN
DEDICATION TO
THE GODS.



CAPTIVATED
BY HIS
BEAUTY.

HIS
ASTONISHING
TALENT WON
THE FAVOR OF
THE GODS.

I CAME TO AN
UNFORGIVABLE
REALIZATION.



...I COULDN'T
STOP STARING.



HE
MUST...

BE
MINE.

BEFORE LONG,
I LOST THE ABILITY
TO RESTRAIN MYSELF.



THE MORE I SAW
OF HIM, THE DEEPER
MY FEELINGS GREW.



TAKING ADVANTAGE
OF MY POSITION AS
A MUSIC MAESTRO,
I CAME UP WITH A
SUITABLE REASON TO
APPROACH THE BOY.



THE BOY'S
FEELINGS WERE
CONVEYED
WHEN WE
TOUCHED.

HE WANTED
ME TOO.



I THOUGHT
I'D DIE IF HE
REFUSED ME.



I LOVE
YOU MORE
THAN THE
GODS

AHH
WHAT
SHOULD
I DO
I LOVE
YOU

AHH
I LOVE
YOU!!
LOVE
YOU
SO MUCH



ELIM...?

WHAT
IF THE
SHRINE
WERE
ELIMI-
NATED?

I
CAN'T
LEAVE
THE
SHRINE.

BUT WE
CAN'T BE
TOGETHER.
I
BELONG
TO THE
GODS.



ON THE MORNING
OF THE FOURTH DAY
I WAS STRUCK DOWN
BY AN ILLNESS THAT
LEFT MY ENTIRE BODY
COVERED WITH SORES
AS IF I'D BEEN
BURNED.

IT WAS
DIVINE
PUNISHMENT
I THOUGHT
IT SERVED
ME RIGHT
AND DIED.



I LIT THE FIRE
IN THE
BLINK OF AN EYE
THE SHRINE AND
THE MONKS
WERE DEVoured
BY FLAMES.

IT BURNED FOR
THREE DAYS AND
THREE NIGHTS
PAINTING THE
SKY RED.

WE MET THE
SAME WAY IN THE
LIFE AFTER THAT.

AND IN THE
LIFE AFTER
THAT ONE...

HE SHOULD HAVE HAD NO
MEMORY OF OUR PREVIOUS
LIFE, YET HE BECAME
ATTRACTED TO ME.

I MET
THE BOY
AGAIN IN
MY NEXT
LIFE.

BUT
THE SIN
I HAD
COMMIT-
TED WAS
NOT SO
LIGHT...
AS
TO BE
COMPEN-
SATED
FOR BY
DYING
ONLY
ONCE.



KNOWING
WE CAN NEVER
BE TOGETHER.

KNOWING
HE'LL BE
MISERABLE
WITH GRIEF.

I CAN'T STOP
FEELING LIKE THIS
KNOWLEDGE IS PUN-
ISHMENT ENOUGH.

I DIE WATCHING
MY BELOVED CRY
HIS EYES OUT.



OVER AND
OVER.

EACH
TIME
WE'RE
REBORN,
WE MEET.

WE'RE
DRAWN
TO EACH
OTHER AND
FALL IN
LOVE.

I UNDERSTAND
HIS FEELINGS
PERFECTLY ON
THE DAY MY
LIFE IS EXTINGUISHED.

AND SO I
REPEAT THE
CYCLE OF RE-
INCARNATION.



I'VE HAD
ENOUGH

I WANT
IT TO
STOP



I WANT
TO PUT AN
END TO THIS
CYCLE OF
REBIRTH.

KINZO...
FREE HIM.

YOU CAN
DO THAT,
CAN'T
YOU?

SENSAI-SAN,
PLEASE,
THAT BOY...

PLEASE.

LEASE
...

...EAT
MY
SOUL



HOWEVER,
THAT
WOULDN'T
CONSTITUTE
A CONTRACT

THIS IS
THE FIRST
TIME SOME
ONE HAS
WISHED
ONLY TO BE
EATEN.

MY, I'VE
GRANTED
MANY DIFF-
ERENT
WISHES,
BUT...



SINCE YOUR
BODY HAS
ENDED UP LIKE
THIS, AREN'T
THERE THINGS
YOU CAN'T DO
EVEN IF YOU
WANT TO?

THEN
WHAT
SHALL
I DO?

YOU MUST
WANT TO
RETURN
TO YOUR
ORIGINAL
BODY.

WE CAN
FORM A
CONTRACT
ON THAT
BASIS.

WHAT
DO
YOU
SAY?



THEN,
JUST
ONCE.



YES,
I'VE
HEARD
YOUR
WISH.

WILL
YOU
PLEASE
GRANT
ME
THAT?

IT'S A
CON-
TRACT.

CHEERING

KINZO!

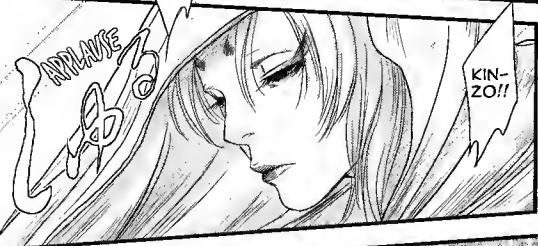
HERE
HE
COMES!

AT
LAST,
WHAT
WE'VE
BEEN
WAITING
FOR!

KINZO!

KINZO!!

BRAVO,
KINZO!





THE
CROWD IS
WORKED
UP.



HERE
GOES



FROM HERE
ON OUT, IT'S
JUST ME
AND THE
SHAMISEN.
A PERFOR-
MANCE WITH
NO HOLDS
BARRED.
COME ON,
SENSAI!

THE TOWN
GIRL OF
THE FIRST
HALF SOON
CHANGES
INTO A
DEMON.





SURE
ENOUGH,
HE SOUNDS
INCREDIBLE
DESPITE THE
HASTY PREP-
ARATION.



NOT
BAD!



IT'S
EASY
TO
DANCE
TO!



BUT...



...I
COULD
HAVE
DANCED
TO THE
TONES
OF MY
MAESTRO.

...IF
ONLY...

NO. THIS
STYLE...
THIS IS..

THESE
TONES...
SENSAI?

EH?

WANG

FUUFU

FUUFU



...IT'S
THE
SAME
AS IT
USED
TO BE.



YOUR
BODY



MAE-
STRO...

HOW
...?





LOST
IN LOVE,
DROWNING
IN DESIRE
THE GIRL'S
PASSIONS

WERE
EXPRESSED
IN KINTO'S
WILD AND
DERANGED
DANCING



AS THE SHAMISEN
PERFECTLY MATCHED
HIS UNPREDICTABLE
MOVEMENTS WITH
EXQUISITE SKILL.

THE PERFORMANCE
WAS PERFECTION.





YAY!

HUFF

HUFF



SAFE TRAVELS.

THAT YEAR, LED BY A BOY THE TENDER AGE OF FIFTEEN, THE KINZO TROUPE WON THE KING'S SEAL OF APPROVAL.

CHEERS CONTINUED TO RING OUT LONG AFTER KINZO HAD LEFT THE STAGE.

KING MUT-SUNOKAMI DIDN'T TRY TO STOP THEM.



THAT WE WILL.

BE SURE TO STOP BY IF YOU'RE UP IN KAMIGATA.

WELL, THIS IS WHERE WE PART.



THANKS FOR MAE-STRO!



AND, SENSAI!

YES?





I CAN'T
FORGET HIM!
I HAVEN'T
LOST HIM,
I'LL ALWAYS
REMEMBER
HIM!

YOU
REMEMBER
KANEYASU...!



THAT'S MY
PUNISHMENT.



BUT
I KNEW IT
WOULD BE
POINTLESS
WITH YOU
SO I GAVE
UP.

WHEN I
HEARD OF
THE SOUL
EATER,
AT FIRST I
PLANNED
TO SIGN
UP.

I KEEP
BEING
BORN
JUST TO
SUFFER
LIKE
HELL.

IT'S PA-
THETIC, BUT
HE'S THE
ONLY ONE I
CAN FALL IN
LOVE WITH.

THE GODS ARE
SO JEALOUS,
THEY'RE HAPPY
TO MAKE ME
SUFFER FOR-
EVER.



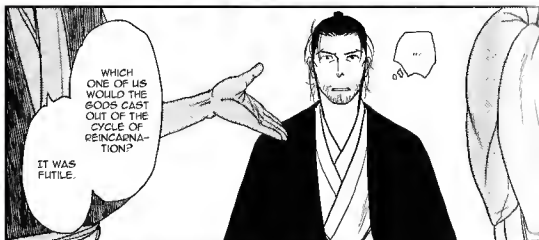
YOU'RE
BEING
PUNISHED
YOURSELF.



WELL,
SEE...

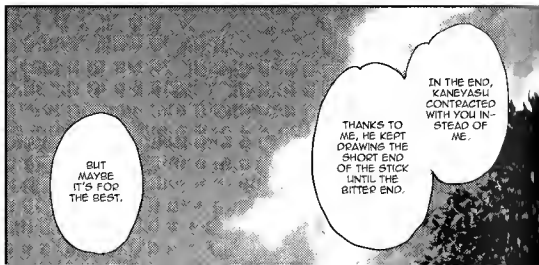
YOU
CAN'T EAT
MY SOUL.

POINTLESS
WITH ME?
WHY?



WHICH
ONE OF US
WOULD THE
GODS CAST
OUT OF THE
CYCLE OF
REINCARNATION?

IT WAS
FUTILE.



BUT
MAYBE
IT'S FOR
THE BEST.

THANKS TO
ME, HE KEPT
DRAWING THE
SHORT END
OF THE STICK
UNTIL THE
BITTER END.

IN THE END,
KANEYASHI
CONTRACTED
WITH YOU IN-
STEAD OF
ME.



FINALLY
HE'S FREE.

HE WAS
SMILING.

I HADN'T
SEEN THAT
EXPRESSION
ONCE SINCE
I LEFT THE
SHRINE.



THANK YOU
FOR EATING
HIM, SENSAI!



KINGS OF MANY
NATIONS COMPETED
WITH THEIR PATRON-
AGE TO WATCH THE
TROUPE'S DIVINE
TALENT ON THE
STAGE.

THE KINZO
TROUPE RETURNED
TO KAMIGATA, THEIR
STATUS RAISED BY
THE ENDORSEMENT
THEY HAD BEEN
GRANTED.

AS FOR
ME, FROM
NOW ON
I'LL ENJOY
MY LIFE TO
THE FULL-
EST!

I'LL HAVE
SO MUCH
FUN, THE
GODS WILL
STAY BITTER
UNTIL MY
FINAL MO-
MENTS.

HE CONTINUED
TO STUBBORNLY
REFUSE TO DANCE
FOR THE GODS.

WHEN HE
WAS REPROACHED
BY HIS ENTOURAGE
FOR BEING SACRI-
LEGIOUS, HE WOULD
ALWAYS RESPOND...

KINZO'S
WHOLEHEARTED
DEVOTION TO
HIS ART WAS IN
DEMAND ON ANY
STAGE HE CHOSE
TO PERFORM,
BUT...

HE HAD NO
INTEREST IN
MERE DIVINE
RITUAL.

...I'M SICK
AND TIRED
OF BEING
PUNISHED!

DANNA.



A SIN
THAT BAD
CAN BE
REMOVED
FROM THE
CYCLE OF
REINCARNATION.
I
WONDER
HOW
IT'S
DONE.



NO IDEA.
NO IDEA.
NO IDEA.
BUT THERE
IS ONE
THING I
KNOW.



THE GODS
ARE FAR
MORE FOUL
NATURED
THAN I
THOUGHT.

WHAT'S
THAT?

HA HA!
THAT'S
FOR
SURE!

END
EPISODE
TWO

[sen] zyouya no chigiri
(episode 3)
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:
anonymous

please purchase manga
if you are able to.

names and places, episode 3

Kusanagi Chikara (草薙主税) ronin, master swordsman
Sensai (千載, literal meaning 1000 years)

Kiyomasa (清正) Satakyo's son

Lord Satakyo (佐田清) wants control of Mt. Eboshi

Sekyu (赤烏, means red raven)

Shirasagi (白鷺, means egret or white heron), later Biyaku (白鳥,
means white raven)

Yata (八咫, reference to Yatagarasu, 八咫鳥, mythical 3 legged raven)

Yamanba (山姥, mountain witch), aka Lady Hosoda Tae

Nenokuni: where Mt. Eboshi is located

Hanokuni: neighboring Nenokuni





THEN
WOULD I
BE YOUR
BROTHER
TOO,
YATA?

DUMMY.

YOU'RE AL-
READY OUR
BROTHER,
SHIRASAGI.



THOSE
TWO
SHOULD
PAIR UP.

!!



SEE?

WE RE-
CEIVED
AN OF-
FERING
OF
MANJU.
WOULD
YOU
BREW
SOME
TEA?

OI, MY
BROTHERS!



第三話

ON MOUNT
EBOSHI IN
NENOKUNI
THERE LIVED
A TENGU.

PEOPLE ADORED
AND REVERED
THE TENGU WHO
PROTECTED THE
MOUNTAIN AND
PROVIDED THE
LAND'S RICH
HARVEST.

HI
THERE,
TENGU-
SAMA.

HEY.

THIS WAS AN
ORDINARY AND
FAMILIAR SIGHT
UNTIL FIVE
YEARS AGO.







SEKYU-SAMA!!

BROTHER!!



THOSE MEN
CAN'T GET
ONTO THE
MOUNTAIN.

I'VE
ESTABLISHED A
SACRED
BARRIER.



SHE'S
AFRAID OF
FIRE AND
MAY BE
STUCK
SOMEWHERE.

I'M GOING TO
SEARCH FOR
YAMANRA.

BROTHER,
HURRY UP
AND COME
INSIDE IT
TOO.

SEKYU-SAMA...

IF I DON'T
COME BACK,
YOU MUST
TAKE OVER
THE BARRIER,
YATA.



BROTHER?!

DON'T
COME
BACK...?



GET
ALONG
WITH SHI
RASAGI
ALRIGHT

BROTHER!

BROTHER!!!



HUFF

HUFF



IT HASN'T
CHANGED,
WE CAN'T
ENTER.

AND THE
SITUATION
ON THE
MOUNTAIN?

HASN'T
CRIED OUT
ONCE.

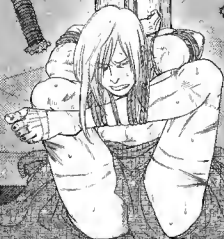
HE'S
STUB-
BORN.

DAMN!

ATTACKING SEKYU
THE TENGU AND
TORCHING THE AREA
OUTSIDE THE SACRED
BOUNDS. WITHIN FIVE
YEARS SATAKYO HAD
TAKEN OVER THE
MOUNTAIN.

IN LORD
SATAKYO'S
SUDDEN RAID
ON MT.
EBOSHI...
THE TENGU
AND EVERYONE
INVOLVED
WITH HIM
DISAPPEARED
WITHOUT
A TRACE.

SATAKYO IS
ATTEMPTING TO
HAVE THE SACRED
BARRIER ON
THE MOUNTAIN
CLEARED IN
EXCHANGE FOR
SHIRASAGI'S LIFE.



AND NOW,
IN ORDER
TO GET THE
REST OF THE
THE MOUNTAIN
IN HIS GRASP...

THE CURRENT
LORD OF THE
MOUNTAIN HAS
ABDUCTED SHI-
RASAGI, YATA
THE TENGU'S
LITTLE BROTHER.

OTHERWISE
I'LL CUT OFF
THE TIPS OF
SHIRASAGI'S
TOES ONE
BY ONE!!

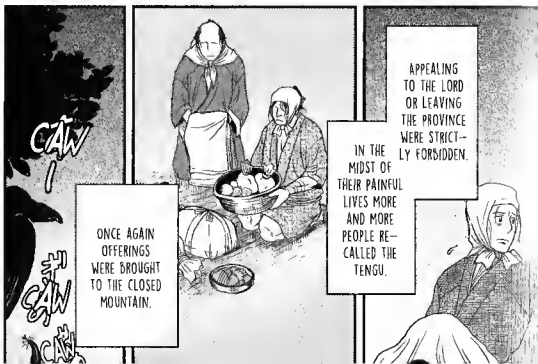
TENGU!
SATAKYO-
SAMA WILL
BE COMING
TOMORROW.
OPEN THE
MOUNTAIN BY
SUNSET!

EH...?

THAT'S
ENOUGH
FOR
TODAY.

GO
BACK TO
CAMP.





THE
MOUNTAIN
REMAINED
CLOSED.

IT HAD
BEEN FIVE
DAYS SINCE
SHIRASAGI'S
ABDUCTION

PLEASE
OPEN THE
MOUNTAIN!

THEY'LL CUT
SHIRASAGI
TO PIECES
TOMORROW.

YATA-
SAMA!
TENSHU-
SAMA!!

AS FOR WHAT
WE DID TO
SEKYU-SAMA,
PLEASE,
FORGIVE AND
FORGET!

WE'LL GET
SHIRASAGI
BACK AND
LIVE LIKE
THE OLD
DAYS.

EVERY
ONE OF
US IS ON
YOUR
SIDE,
TENSHU-
SAMA!

LET'S FIGHT
SATAKYO.

THAT'S
RICH...!

WE WERE
TRICKED!

WE DIDN'T
KNOW THERE
WAS SOME-
THING LIKE
THAT IN THE
LIQUOR!

AND
HAVEN'T
YOU ABAN-
DONED SHI-
RASAGI?

WHO MIXED
POISON INTO
AN OFFERING
TO MY BROTH-
ER, ALLOWING
THE LORD TO
MURDER HIM?

YATA-
SAMA!

RAGE!!

SILENCE!!!!

What do
you know!!
DON'T
SPEAK OF
SHIRASAGI!

Be
gone!!

HAVE
MERCY,
YATA-
SAMA.

YIKES!

OR I'll
have the
RAVENS
PECK OUT
your eyes!



I'M
HERE
FOR A
CON-
TRACT!

GET HERE
BEFORE
IT'S TOO
LATE!

PLEASE.

HURRY UP
and eat
my soul!!

I CAN
STILL
MAKE A
CON-
TRACT!

BUT..

THERE
MAY YET
BE TIME...!

HEY THERE,
SORRY TO
KEEP YOU
WAITING.

!!!

OH, THE
SOUTH-
WESTERN
BARRIER IS
WEAKEN-
ING.

YOU'VE MADE
THE BARRIER GOOD
AND SOLID, SO IT
TOOK A LONG TIME
TO GET ONTO THE
MOUNTAIN.

ONCE YOU
CALLED OUT IT
WAS EASIER
TO GET IN.



MY NAME IS
KUSANABI

THIS GENTLE-
MAN, WELL
HE'S AN
ESCORT
OF SORTS

I AM
SENSAI



YOU'RE
THE ONE
I MAKE A
CONTRACT
WITH?



CAW CAW CAW



YOU-

YOU'LL
HANDLE
THEM?

NO
PROB-
LEM.



EH...?

HOW ABOUT
LETTING THIS
GENTLEMAN
HANDLE
THEM?



FIRST YOU
NEED TO
GET YOUR
LITTLE
BROTHER
BACK,
RIGHT?

WE HEARD
THE GIST OF
YOUR GEN-
ERAL CIR-
CUMSTANC-
ES ON OUR
WAY HERE.

HOW
LARGE IS
THE GROUP
THAT'S
HOLDING
HIM?

WELL?
EIGHT MEN?
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT?



UH...
NO.

I'LL HAVE
THE RAVENS
GUIDE YOU
THERE



IS THE
CAMP FAR
FROM
HERE?

THIS ISN'T
PART OF
THE CON-
TRACT.

BUT IT'S
THE REASON
YOU CALLED
US, RIGHT?

THE
GENTLEMAN
WILL TAKE
CARE OF
IT FIRST.



HE HAS THE STAT-
URE OF A CHILD, BUT
HE MUST HAVE IN-
CREDIBLE SPIRITUAL
POWERS TO GET
THROUGH MY BAR-
RIER SO EASILY.

HE...

THE ONE
I MAKE A
CONTRACT
WITH...



I'M SO
GRATE-
FUL.



BROTHER,
WITH
THIS...
...I CAN
FULFILL MY
PROMISE.

BY MAKING
THIS CON-
TRACT, I CAN
SAVE THE
MOUNTAIN
AND SHI-
PASAGI
TOO.



HE GOT
HERE IN
TIME.



...I CAN
DIE WITH
NO RE-
GRETTS.



THIS
MEANS...



THIS IS SO FUN.
WHAT'S HE
GONNA SAY?

Whaa
ha
ha
ha
ha!

HEY,
WHAT'S
YOUR
PROBLEM?
TIGHTEN
UP!!

EASY THERE.
WE HAVE TO
KEEP HIM
ALIVE UNTIL
TOMORROW.



Ha
ha
ha
ha

ha
ha

<chigo (稚児) boys kept by pederasts>



I'VE NEVER
HAD A THING
FOR CHIGOS,
BUT HIM
I CAN'T
RESIST.

SKIN
WHITER
THAN
ANY
WOM-
AN'S.

AND
LOOK AT
THESE
NIPPLES!



WAKE HIM
UP. IT'S A
PAIN, BUT HE
NEEDS TO
BE CON-
SCIOUS.

OI,
FETCH
SOME
WATER.

HA HA HA,
IF THAT'S
WHAT IT
TAKES!!



HUHP THE
HELL? HE
PASSED
OUT AGAIN.





WHO
THE
HELL
ARE
YOU?!

WE'VE
COME FOR
SHIRASAGI.
TAKE US
TO HIM.

...WERE
SENT
FROM
EBOSHI
PASS BY
TENGU
YATA.

WE...



THESE MEN
ARE PROB-
ABLY LOCALS
PLOTING
AGAINST US.

SETTLE
DOWN!

YATA CAN'T
SET FOOT
OFF THE
MOUNTAIN.



WHAT FINE
FOOLS
HE ASSO-
CIATES
WITH.

YATA'S
EMISSAR-
IES?



WE'LL HANG
THEIR HEADS ON
THE RIVERBANK
AS A LESSON
TO THOSE WHO
WOULD COMMIT
TREASON
AGAINST THE
LORD.

WHAT CAN
THEY DO,
JUST THE
SMALL
FRY.
CUT THEM
DOWN!!!



THANKS
TO THAT,
THERE'S
NO NEED
FOR US
TO HOLD
BACK.

INDISCRIM-
INATELY CUT-
TING DOWN
THE PEOPLE
YOU SHOULD
YOU'RE BE DEFEND-
ROTTEN ING.
OFFICIALS.



IF YOU
HAVE ANY
PRAYERS
FOR
BUDDHA...



...YOU
CAN
CHANT
THEM IN
HELL.



WHOOOSH







...UNFOR-
GIVABLE

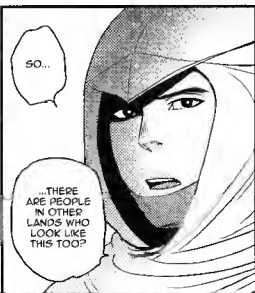


HOR-
RIBLE.

LET'S
GET HIM
OUT OF
HERE
RIGHT
AWAY.

HOLD
ON,
DANNA.
HIS
SHOUL-
DER IS
SLIGHTLY
DISLO-
CATED.
LET'S PUT
IT BACK
IN PLACE.









A CHUNK THIS
BIG SHOULD
BRING A FAIR
AMOUNT OF
MONEY.

IT'S A
RAPE MIN-
ERAL THAT
CAN ONLY
BE FOUND
IN THIS
AREA.



THIS...

WHY
THE
LORD
MINES
THE
MOUN-
TAIN.



AREN'T
YOU
GOING?

WITH THE OTHER
HALF, WOULD YOU
TAKE SHIRASAGI
TO THAT CITY?

WHAT?

KUSA-
NAGI,

PLEASE
ACCEPT
HALF IN
THANKS
FOR WHAT
YOU'VE
DONE.



FOR A
CON-
TRACT.

I KNOW THAT
MY SPIRITUAL
POWERS WILL
ONLY LAST A FEW
MORE YEARS...
THAT'S WHY I
CALLED YOU

PLEASE
GUARD THE
MOUNTAIN IN
EXCHANGE
FOR MY
SOUL.



THE
BARRIER
WILL BE
BREACHED
EVENTU-
ALLY.

YOU'LL BE
TORTURED
TO DEATH




NO ONE ON
THIS MOUN-
TAIN YOU'VE
GUARDED
WILL KNOW
YOU WERE
EVER ALIVE

ALL
EVIDENCE
THAT YOU
EXISTED IN
THIS WORLD
WILL VANISH
COMPLETELY.

YOU'LL BE
REMOVED
FROM THE
CYCLE OF
REINCAR-
NATION
WITHOUT A
TRACE.

DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND
WHAT
A CON-
TRACT
ENTAILS



NATURALLY
YOU'LL ALSO
DISAPPEAR
FROM SHI-
PASAGI'S
MEMORIES
IS
THAT
STILL
A-
RIGHT?



HE HOLED UP
ON THE MOUN-
TAIN WITH ME
AND THOSE TWO
FOR MORE THAN
FIVE YEARS.

THAT WILL
BE BETTER
FOR SHI-
PASAGI.

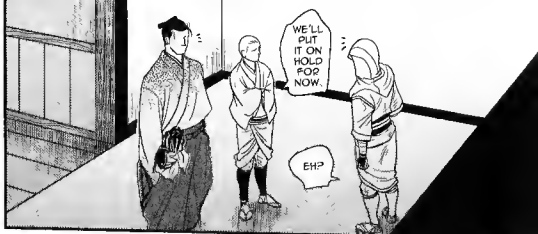


DON'T
BE SO
SURE
ABOUT
THAT.



THAT TIME
WITH MY
BROTHER
AND YA-
MANBA IS
THE ONLY
HAPPY
MEMORY
HE'LL EVER
HAVE.





WE'LL
PUT
IT ON
HOLD
FOR
NOW.

EHP



I'LL BE
FINISHED
WITH THAT
BY SUNSET
TOMOR-
ROW.

I CAME
TO THIS
COUNTRY
ON SOME
OTHER
BUSINESS.

I'LL GET
YOUR RE-
SPONSE
THEN.

THINK
ABOUT IT
LONG AND
HARD AS
YOU WATCH
SHIRASASI'S
FACE WHILE
HE SLEEPS
TONIGHT.

I WON'T
MAKE A
CONTRACT
WITH
SOMEONE
WHO'S
NOT COM-
pletely
SURE!

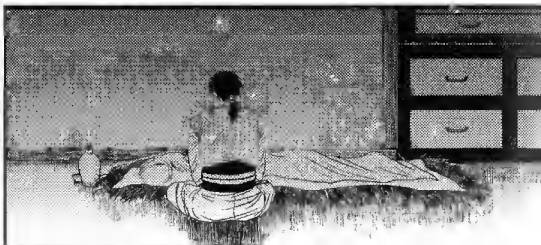


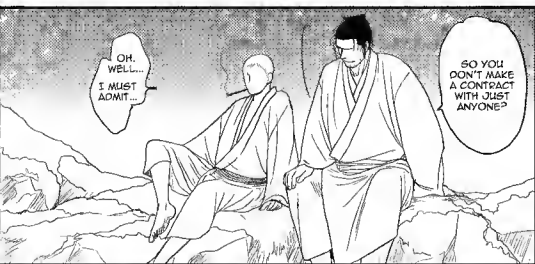
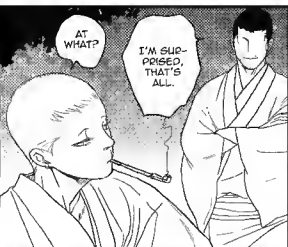
YOU STILL
HAVE TIME
TO CARE-
FULLY-
THINK IT
OVER.

SHI-
RASASI
IS BACK.

THE
BARRIER
HAS BEEN
REIN-
STATED.







THEN
THE
QUALMS
...

I HARDLY
EVER ENTER
INTO A CON-
TRACT WITH
SOMEONE
DUE TO MY
OWN DE-
SIRE.

EVEN
THOUGH
I EAT THE
SOUL PRE-
SENTED TO
ME, IT'S TO
FULFILL A
WISH.

...ARE
YOUR
OWN,
RIGHT?

THERE
ARE MANY
REASONS,
BUT...

THAT IS,
GENER-
ALLY WHAT
I DO IS
DONE FOR
PEOPLE
OTHER...

THAN
MYSELF.

...ONE CAN
CAST OFF
ONESELF
INTO NOTH-
INGNESS
EVEN IN THE
AFTERLIFE
FOR OTHERS.

I
PREFER
PEOPLE
LIKE
THAT.

I CAN
LIVE WITH
EATING
THAT KIND
OF SOUL.



THE
THOUGHT
OF THEM
WEIGHS
HEAVY ON
MY BELLY
FOREVER.

A MEAL
LIKE THAT
LITERALLY
LEAVES
A BAD AF-
TERTASTE.

BUT...

...IF
SOMEONE
IS EVEN
SLIGHTLY
HESITANT,
I DON'T
WANT TO
EAT THEM



LONG-
ING.

REGRET

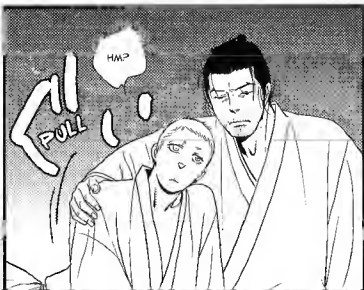
LONELI-
NESS.

GRIEF.



I'M
SORRY.

?
FOR
WHAT?



HMP

POLL



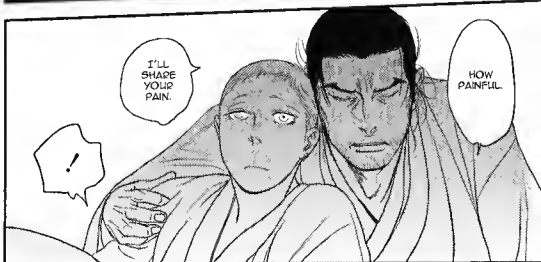
WITH THE WAY
YOU SPEAK, I
WONDERED IF
YOU HAD ANY
EMOTION AT
ALL IN YOU.

I
APOL-
OGIZE.

HA HA!
DON'T GO
OVER-
BOARD.



YOU'VE LIVED
ALONE FOR SO
LONG HARBOR-
ING THOSE
FEELINGS.



I'LL
SHARE
YOUR
PAIN.

HOW
PAINFUL.

!



BWA
HA!



PFFT!



U





INDULGE
ME, DANNA.
YOU CAN
STAY AS
STILL AS
A TUNA.

YOU
DON'T
HAVE TO
WORRY
ABOUT
ME.

OI.



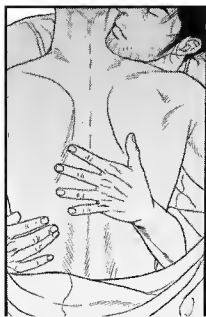
YOU
REAL-
LY...



SENSAI...
IT WASN'T
MY INTEN-
TION TO-



WE'LL
MAKE IT
QUICK.










HIS DUTIES DONE,
THE OLD TENGU
RETURNS TO THE
MOUNTAIN

WHEN THAT TIME
COMES, HE ENTRUSTS
HIS SPIRITUAL POWERS
AND THE KNOWLEDGE
OF THE MOUNTAIN
HE INHERITED TO
A YOUNG TENGU.

SAID TO BE LONG,
EVEN THE LIFE OF
A TENGU EVEN-
TULLY COMES
TO AN END.



LORD SEKYU
TENGU OF MT
EBOSHI SENSED
HIS SPIRITUAL
POWERS DE-
CLINING

HE WALKED
AROUND THE
MOUNTAIN,
SEARCHING FOR THE TREE
CROTCH WHERE THE TENGU
INFANT HAD BEEN DELIVERED.

BUT STRANGELY,
THE BABY WAS
NOWHERE TO
BE FOUND.

SOON A
NEW TENGU
WOULD BE
NEEDED.

SEKYU PRAYED
TO THE MOUNTAIN
FOR THE BIRTH OF
THE NEXT TENGU
AND AWAITED
THE MOUNTAIN'S
RESPONSE.

SURELY THE
MOUNTAIN
MUST HAVE
RESPONDED,
BUT...



CARRIED OFF
BY BIRDS?

THAT
NIGHT...

...SEKYU TENGU
FISHED OUT A
HUMAN BABY
WHO HAD BEEN
DROPPED IN
THE RIVER.

DEVoured
BY BEASTS?

I LL TRY
PRAYING TO
THE MOUNTAIN
AGAIN WHEN
MY SPIRITUAL
POWERS ARE
REPLENISHED.

SO THIS
BOND IS
THE WILL
OF THE
MOUNTAIN.

THEN YOU
SHALL BE
NAMED
YATA.

AAH...

WHAA...

HAA

WHAA...!

BECOME
A TENGU
AND PRO-
TECT THE
MOUNTAIN
WITH ME.

WHAAA...

HOW PITIFUL,
CUTTING OFF
A LIFE
BEFORE IT'S
BEEN LIVED.

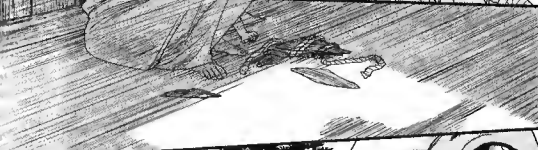
SEKYU GAVE
THE BABY
SOME OF HIS
OWN BLOOD
TO PASS ON
HIS SPIRITUAL
POWERS.

tutulu

tutulu



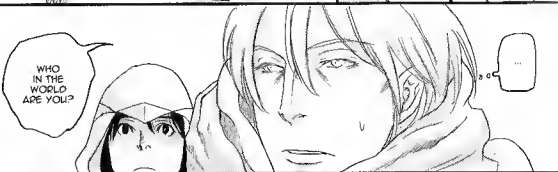
THUS SEKYU
BEGAN TO RAISE
YATA TO BE THE
NEW LORD OF
THE MOUNTAIN.



THERE'S
SOME-
ONE
HERE.

WHAT
IS IT?

BROTHER.





SHE
DOESN'T
SPEAK SO
I KNOW
NOTHING
ABOUT
HER.

SHE
SUDDENLY
APPEARED
ON THE
MOUNTAIN.

AND I
WONDER
WHERE SHE
FOUND THAT
CHILD.



TENGU-
SAMA,
WHO IS
THAT
YOUNG
LADY?



HA
HA HA,
SO NO
GOOD?

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
KEEP HER?
SHE'S NOT
A DOG OR
A CAT.

YOU
SHOULD
KEEP HER,
TENGU-
SAMA.

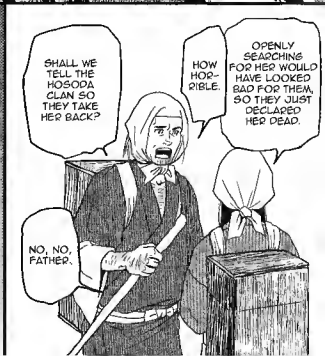


SHE'S
PRETTY
EASY
ON THE
EYES.

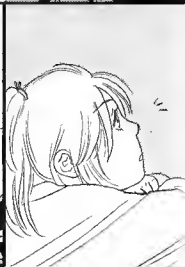


I'LL LOOK
AFTER HER
WHILE SHE'S
ON THE MOUN-
TAIN. PLEASE
LET ME KNOW
IF YOU FIND
OUT ANYTHING
ABOUT HER.

WILL
DO.







WHY
DOES HE
DRINK
YOUR
BLOOD?



suck



I am
so a
Tengu!!

PAGE
OUT

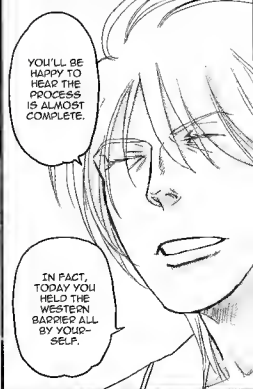
YATA'S
NOT A
TENGU?


SO I HAVE
TO REMAKE
HIM AS THE
MOUNTAIN'S
WITH MY
BLOOD

YATA
DOESN'T
ORIGINALLY
BELONGS
TO THE
MOUNTAIN.

?







THE WATER
SUPPLY WILL
BE BLOCKED,
THE GROUND
WILL COLLAPSE,
AND THIS WHOLE
AREA WILL BE
BURIED IN
SEDIMENT.

IF THAT
LOWDOWN
SATAKYO GETS
HIS WISH AND
STARTS MINING,
THE MOUNTAIN
WILL BE DAM-
AGED.

IT'S JUST
A ROCK TO US,
BUT TO HUMANS
IT'S A TREASURE
THAT WILL MAKE
THEM RICH.

THE
MOUNTAIN
AND THE
PEOPLE
ON IT WILL
DIE.

NEVER
ALLOW THE
MOUNTAIN
TO BE
MINED.

DOES
SATAKYO
KNOW THE
MOUNTAIN
WILL COL-
LAPSE?

DON'T LET
THAT KIND OF
MAN HAVE HIS
WAY WITH MY
MOUNTAIN.

ALL THE
BASTARD
CAPES
ABOUT IS
GETTING
RICHER.
SELF-
INTERESTED
BRUTE.

HE DOESN'T
GIVE A DAMN
ABOUT THE
MOUNTAIN
OR ITS
PEOPLE.



I'LL GAIN
MORE AND
MORE POWER
AND PROTECT
THE MOUN-
TAIN!

BIG
WORDS
YATA!

I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU!



OF
COURSE
BROTHER, YOU AND I
CAN TEAM UP
AND DRIVE OFF
SATAKYO!



I
CAN
TOO!

YOU
CAN'T DO
ANYTHING
SHIRASAGI.



ME
TOO!

ME-



SHIRASAGI
WILL MAKE
A GREAT
HELPER WHEN
THE TIME
COMES,
YATA.

YOU TWO
SHOULD
SET ALONG
AND COM-
BINE
FORCES.

NOW,
NOW,
YES HE
CAN.



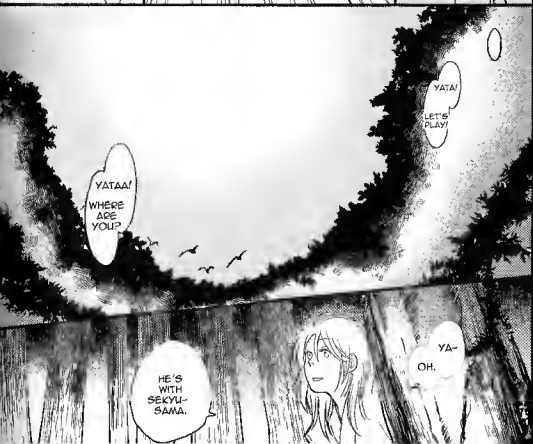
I'LL SHOW
YOU! I'LL
PROTECT
WHAT'S
PRECIOUS
TO YOU,
BROTHER...

THE
MOUN-
TAIN, ITS
PEO-
PLE...

...WITHOUT
any help
FROM
SHIRASAGI!

SEK-

I'll
be
FINE
ON MY
OWN!!



YATAA!
WHERE
ARE
YOU?

YATA!
LET'S
PLAY!

HE'S
WITH
SEKYU-
SAMA.

YA-
OH.



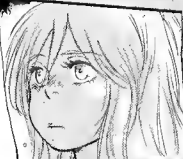
I'LL
PROTECT
WHAT'S
PRECIOUS
TO YOU,
BROTHER.

BRO-
THER.

BRO-
THER.

THE
MOUNTAIN,
YAMANBA,
SHIRASABI,
ALL OF
EVEN IF THEM.
IT COSTS
ME MY LIFE,
I'LL PRO-
TECT THEM
FOREVER.

FOR-
EVER.

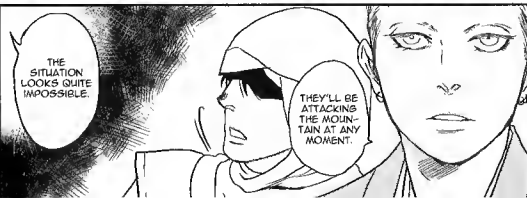








<Yamabushi: mountain ascetic hermits believed to be endowed with supernatural powers.>





WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN

NOW IT'S
CLEAR WHO
THAT SWINE
SATAKYO IS
IN LEAGUE
WITH.



THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE
MOUNTAIN IS
SURROUNDED
BY SOLDIERS
FROM THE
NEIGHBORING
COUNTRY.

MY, MY.
MY OH
MY.



BY SACRI-
FICING THIS
PLACE HE'S
FOUND A WAY
TO CONTROL
A LARGER
TERRITORY.

IN EXCHANGE
FOR THE MIN-
ERALS ON MT.
EBOSHI, HE'S
MADE A DEAL
WITH THE
NEIGHBORING
COUNTRY,
HANOKUNI.



HE
PLANS TO
SETTLE THIS
BY THE END
OF THE DAY.

THE
CANNONS
ARE FIRING
NONSTOP.







OUCH!

BONKI!



SORRY
KUSANAGI,
BUT WOULD
YOU TAKE HIM
BACK TO HIS
ROOM?



SHIRA-
SAGI?

WHOOOSH



SHIVER

SHIVER

SHIVER

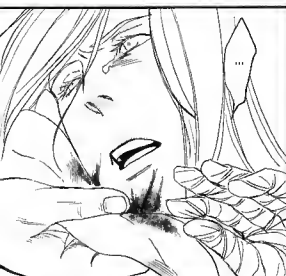


WHAT...
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
WITH MY
SWORD?

OL...!









DAMN
FOOL!
WHAT DO
YOU THINK



YOU'RE
THE DAMN
FOOL,
YATA
TENSU.

DON'T YOU
DREAD PRO-
TECTING THE
MOUNTAIN
BY YOUR-
SELF?



HE'S BEEN
ANTICIPATING
FROM THE
OUTSET THAT
YOU WOULD
SUMMON ME.

YOU'VE
BEEN SO
FOCUSED ON
THE FUTURE,
YOU NEVER
GLANCED AT
THIS BOY.

BUT TAKE
A GOOD
LOOK AND
YOU'LL SEE
SHIRASAGI
IS DIFFERENT
FROM YOU.

IF I MAKE
A CONTRACT
WITH YOU, I'LL
HAVE TO EAT
SHIRASAGI'S
SOUL TOO.

NOW
WHAT?

THIS BOY'S
WISH IS "TO
BE WITH
YATA."



I'M
SORRY.





WE'RE
TENGUS.



APPARENTLY
THAT BASTARD
SATAKYO HAS
ARRIVED.



DANNA,
WILL THE
TWO OF YOU
PLEASE
COVER ME?

IT WILL
SOON BE
SUNSET.

FINE.



THE
RING-
LEADER
IS ABOUT
TO GET A
PIECE OF
MY MIND.

WHAT
ARE YOU
PLANNING
TO DO?



THE
TENGUS
ARE
COMING
OUT!!



SO YOU
FINALLY
SURRENDER.

O-ii,
SATAKYO.
YOU
SHOULDN'T
SPEAK SO
RECKLESSLY
IN YOUR
POSITION

BOTH YOU
AND THE
MOUNTAIN
WILL BE AN-
NIHILATED-

HOWEVER,
YOUR DECISION
COMES A LITTLE
LATE. EVEN IF
YOU BEG FOR
YOUR LIVES
NOW, IT'S
POINTLESS.





HE WENT
TO THE
CASTLE

WHERE'S
KIYO-
MASA?

HAVE YOU
NOTICED HE
HASN'T BEEN
AROUND
SINCE THE
DAY BEFORE
YESTERDAY

YOUR
SON
KIYO-
MASA...



WHO
CARES?

WHAT
THE HELL
IS THIS!?



WHO THE
HELL ARE YOU,
PIPSQUEAK?
AND WHAT DO
MEAN BY
THAT?



AFTER
LAYING BARE
EVERY SINGLE
DARK DEED OF
HIS FATHER'S
CRIMES
BEFORE THE
DAIMYO.

LAST
NIGHT...

KIYO-
MASA
COM-
MITTED
SEP-
PUKU.

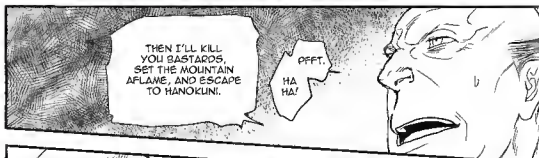


THAT
SPINELESS
HALFWIT
MANAGED
TO ESCAPE
YOUR EVIL
INFLUENCE.

PURSUERS
SENT BY THE
DAIMYO ARE
PREPARING TO
CAPTURE YOU
SHORTLY.



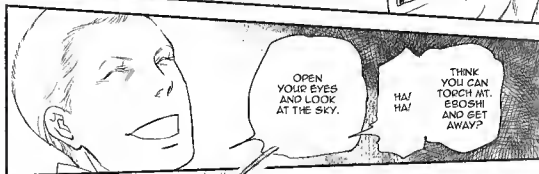
UNBELIEV-
ABLE...! THE
SPINELESS
HALFWIT.



THEN I'LL KILL
YOU BASTARDS,
SET THE MOUNTAIN
AFIRE, AND ESCAPE
TO HANOKUNI.

PFFT.

HA
HA!



OPEN
YOUR EYES
AND LOOK
AT THE SKY.

HA!
HA!

THINK
YOU CAN
TORCH MT.
ESOSHI
AND GET
AWAY?



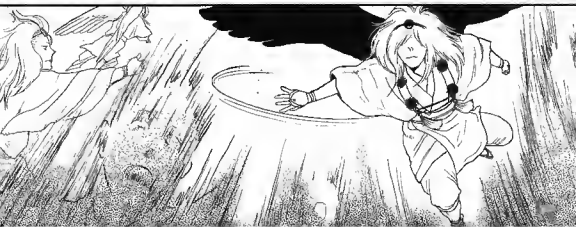
THEY...

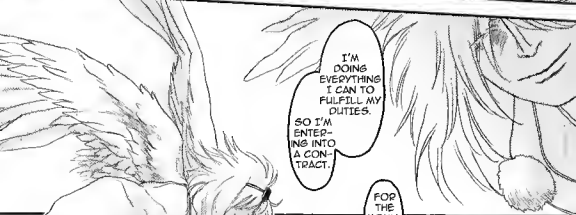
...WON'T
ALLOW
IT.

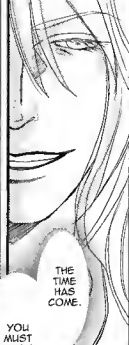


WHOOOSH









THE
TIME
HAS
COME.

YOU
MUST
BECOME
YATA'S
HELPER.



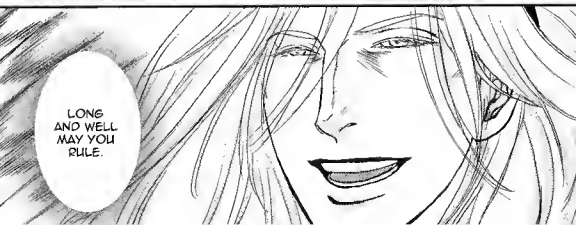
SHI-
RA...





HE IS NO
LONGER
SHIRASAGI.

TO BE KNOWN
HENCEFORTH AS
BIYAKU TENGU,
HE AND YOU,
YATA TENGU,
ARE TOGETHER
RECOGNIZED AS
THE LORDS OF
MT. EBOSHI.



LONG
AND WELL
MAY YOU
RULE.



BRO-
THER...



YATA,
YOU'VE
DONE
WELL.



I'LL BE
RETURNING
TO THE
MOUNTAIN,
BUT I WON'T
DISAPPEAR.

YOUR
MOTHER
AND I WILL
BE WATCH-
ING OVER
THE TWO
OF YOU.

I'M PROUD
TO BE YOUR
OLDER
BROTHER.



EH...?



I'M A LITTLE
DISAPPOINTED
THAT I MISSED
BEING YOUR
STEFFATHER,
BUT THAT'S
LIFE.



BROTHER,
WHAT DID
YOU JUST
SAY?

MY...?



SEKYU-
SAMA!

BRO-
THER!

UNTIL THE
DAY YOU
TWO RETURN
TO THE
MOUNTAIN...

...GET
ALONG
WELL, MY
BROTHERS.

WHOOSH

TO MAKE ME
DIVORCE HER,
FATHER MIXED
DRUGS INTO HER
FOOD SO SHE
WOULD LOSE
THE BABY SHE
WAS CARRYING.



KNOWING
HOW HORRIBLE
HE WAS, I WAS
AFRAID OF MY
FATHER.

I STOOD
ASIDE AND
KEPT QUIET.

THE HOSODA
FAMILY'S
YOUNGEST
DAUGHTER,
TAE.

IN ORDER TO FORGE
A RELATIONSHIP WITH
THE HOSODA FAMILY
AND CREATE A
CONNECTION TO
HANOKUNI, UNDER
FATHER'S ORDERS
I TOOK HER AS
MY WIFE.

HOWEVER,
ONCE HE WAS
ABLE TO TRADE
DIRECTLY WITH
HANOKUNI...



THE PRE-
SENCE OF TAE,
A LINK TO
THE HOSODAS,
BECAME AN
IMPEDIMENT.

I SUPPOSE
YOU KNEW
IT WOULD
TURN OUT
LIKE THIS.

IT
SEEMS
EVEN
TENSUS
CAME TO
AN END.



I FELL
IN LOVE
WITH A
GIRL.

NO.

THE
CONTRACT
WASN'T ES-
TABLISHED
UPON KIYO-
MASA'S
SEPPUKU.

IT WAS
SET UP
FIVE
YEARS
AGO.

THERE WAS
THE POSSI-
BILITY THAT
IN TIME HE
MIGHT HAVE
A CHANGE
OF HEART.

BUT
HE FOL-
LOWED
THROUGH.



TWO CORPSES
WERE RECOV-
ERED FROM THE
SCORCHED
MOUNTAIN

WHEN TAE
WENT OUT OF
HER MIND AND
WANDERED INTO
THE WILDERNESS,
I DIDN'T EVEN
TRY TO FIND HER.

I WANT
TO ATONE
FOR TAE
AND THE
TENGU.

I TORCHED
THE MOUNTAIN
KNOWING SHE
WAS LIVING
THERE.

ACCORDING
TO HEARSAY,
TAE WAS IN A
RELATIONSHIP
WITH A TENGU,
AN INEXCUS-
ABLE OFFENSE.

PLEASE,
MAKE A
CONTRACT
WITH ME.

AT THE SIGHT
OF THEIR DIS-
FIGUREMENT,
I SHUDDERED
AT MY OWN
STUPIDITY.

I KILLED
HER.



FLAP

FOR THE
SAKE OF
DECENCY
STOP THAT!

WHO
WOULD
EAT A SOUL
SUCH AS
YOURS?

THE DAIMYO
WILL MAKE
SHORT AND
THOROUGH
WORK OF
YOUR PUN-
ISHMENT.

MAY YOU
DIE A MIS-
ERABLE
DEATH,
SINNER.

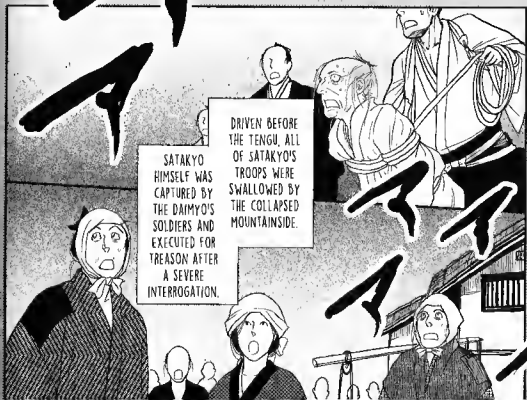




CAW


THAT EVENING,
THE HUGE THREE-
LEGGED RAVEN
THAT APPEARED
FROM OUT OF
THE BLUE AND
STRETCHED ACROSS
THE SKY...

SHOWED
EVERYONE
WATCHING
WHO OWNED
THE MOUN-
TAIN.



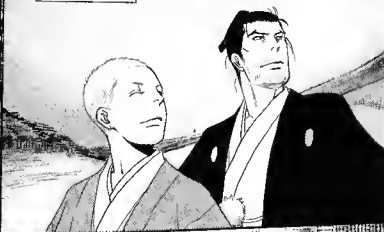
SATAKYO
HIMSELF WAS
CAPTURED BY
THE DAIMYO'S
SOLDIERS AND
EXECUTED FOR
TREASON AFTER
A SEVERE
INTERROGATION.

DRIVEN BEFORE
THE TENGU, ALL
OF SATAKYO'S
TROOPS WERE
SWALLOWED BY
THE COLLAPSED
MOUNTAINSIDE.



ALTHOUGH
EXTREMELY
UNORTHODOX,
THE TENGUS TOOK
CHARGE AND
HUMANS WERE
FORBIDDEN TO
GOVERN.

AS FOR
MT. EBOSHI,
THE DAIMYO
DECREED IT
A HOLY
MOUNTAIN.



MT. EBOSHI
PROSPERED
LONG AND
WELL UNDER
THE TWO
TENGUS.



**Path
Through
the Rice
Paddies on
a Snowy
Night**



...THERE'S
FIREWOOD
AND A
FUTON.
WE'RE
SAVED!

LOOKS LIKE
NOBODY'S
HERE BUT...

WE CAN
STAY HERE
FOR THE
NIGHT.

HELLO?

KNOCK

KNOCK

WE'RE LUCKY
MORE SNOW
WILL FALL
TONIGHT

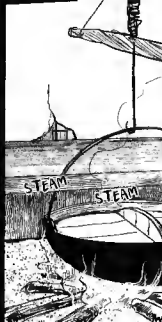
SHAKE

WHEW

MY TOES
SEEM TO BE
FROZEN
SOLID.

DON'T BE
EXTRAVAGANT.
JUST TO BE
WARM IS ENOUGH
TO ASK.

NOW IF ONLY
THERE WERE
SOME FOOD
AND DRINKS.



I CAN'T
SEE VERY
WELL, I
HAVE NO
SENSE OF
TASTE...

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
COLD EITHER,
SO I REGU-
LARLY CATCH
COLDS BE-
CAUSE I DON'T
BUNDLE UP.

NOT
ONLY
HEAT.

...PHYSI-
CALLY I'M
SLIGHT AND
SLOW



WHAT DO
YOU MEAN
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND
HEAT?

JUST
THAT

THEN EVERY-
THING YOU
EAT TASTES
LIKE PAPER?

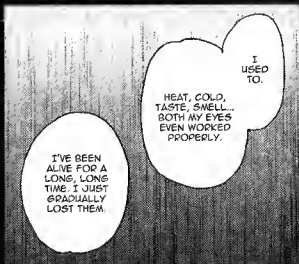
NO
SENSE
OF
TASTE?



THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHAT IT
TASTES
LIKE.

WELL
SAID,
DANNA.









YOUR HANDS ARE LIKE ICE.
HOW ABOUT YOUR FEET?

surprise



SQUEEZE



NOO!
I'LL DO IT.

BE STILL.

I'M TAKING OFF YOUR SOCKS.

WHAT, WHAAT,
WHAT ARE YOU-DANNA?

WHAA!



SO WHAT.
EVEN IF MY TOES FREEZE OFF, THEY GROW BACK.



YOU HAVE FROSTBITE!!



THE MORE
PAIN I'M IN
THE MORE
ALIVE I
FEEL

I'M
FINE.

LEAVE
ME BE.



...



AREN'T
YOU IN
PAIN?

BUT
THIS
MUST
HURT!



CO-

COME
NOW,
DANNA!

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING,
DANNA?
YOU'LL
GET COLD!



DO YOU
FEEL ANY-
THING?



SORRY.

NOTHING
AT ALL.



YO.



WHAA!

74
Psycho





Mark on face
grew bigger
and bigger.

Medievalish.

Red eyes,
practically can't see.

First
glance

Skilled
at the
shamisen.

Long white hair,
usually covered by cloth.

PRODUCTION NOTES

2010.09.17

REJECTED

BEFORE THE DEBUT OF OKADAYA I DREW HISTORICAL MANGA, AND JUST WHEN I WAS ALWAYS THINKING "I'D LIKE TO DRAW AN ENTERTAINING PERIOD DRAMA SOMEDAY," THE PHONE RANG AND IT WAS BOSS M SAYING "WHY DON'T YOU DRAW A PERIOD DRAMA?" I WAS ABSOLUTELY ECSTATIC. WHEN I SAID "I'LL DO IT, I'LL DO IT, PLEASE LET ME DO IT!" THE REPLY WAS "GREAT, BUT THIS IS BL. NO BRAWNY, BEARDED, SHAVED-FOR-HEAD SAMURAI CHARACTERS." SO IT WAS QUITE DIFFICULT DESIGNING THE PROTAGONIST. AFTER SEVERAL DESIGN CHANGES, BLIND MAN SENSAI WAS ESTABLISHED.



Hair about 50% white?

Not an actual buzz cut though.

Maybe the mark on his face
grows if he eats no souls.

And if it spreads over his
whole body he turns to stone.
One leg already can't move.
Something like that.

As for appearance,
a young man
around 20?

Blind, so travels
with a sword staff.

Smug expression.



REJECTED

WHAT SIN HAS SENSAI COMMITTED? WHY IS KUSANAGI ON THE RUN? THE PAST, THE FUTURE, WHAT KIND OF SOUL WILL CALL OUT TO SENSAI NEXT? THESE QUESTIONS INSPIRE ME TO KEEP DRAWING THE STORY. THANKFULLY HANAMARU HAS DECIDED I CAN CONTINUE WITH A SECOND VOLUME. PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN THESE TWO. FINALLY, MY SINCERE THANKS TO THE FRIENDS WHO ENCOURAGED ME AND TO EVERYONE WHO WAITED FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS WORK. MY DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO THOSE I WORKED WITH IN THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING M, THE PERSON IN CHARGE, TO WHOM I'M INDEBTED FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS BOOK. AND THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO PICKED IT UP AND READ IT.

SEPTEMBER 2010
OKADAYA TETUZOH

ON THE OTHER HAND, KUSANAGI CHIKARA WAS NO TROUBLE AT ALL. THE MAIN STORY IS SENSAI'S TO THE VERY END, SO I WAS DETERMINED THAT KUSANAGI'S APPEARANCE WOULD COMPLETELY SUIT MY TASTES. THANKS TO THAT, HE WAS EASY TO DRAW. LOL, I'M BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED HE HAD RELATIVELY FEW OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW OFF, SO I HASTILY TRIED TO DRAW HIM HERE. IF POSSIBLE I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU A LITTLE MORE OF "THE BIG SWORDSMAN" IN THE FUTURE.



**NAILED
HIM
FIRST
TRY!**

千 ―長夜の契―

二〇一〇年九月二十五日 第一刷発行
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著 者

岡田屋鉄蔵

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[sen]

rasen no zyou

okadaya tetuzoh

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螺旋の錠





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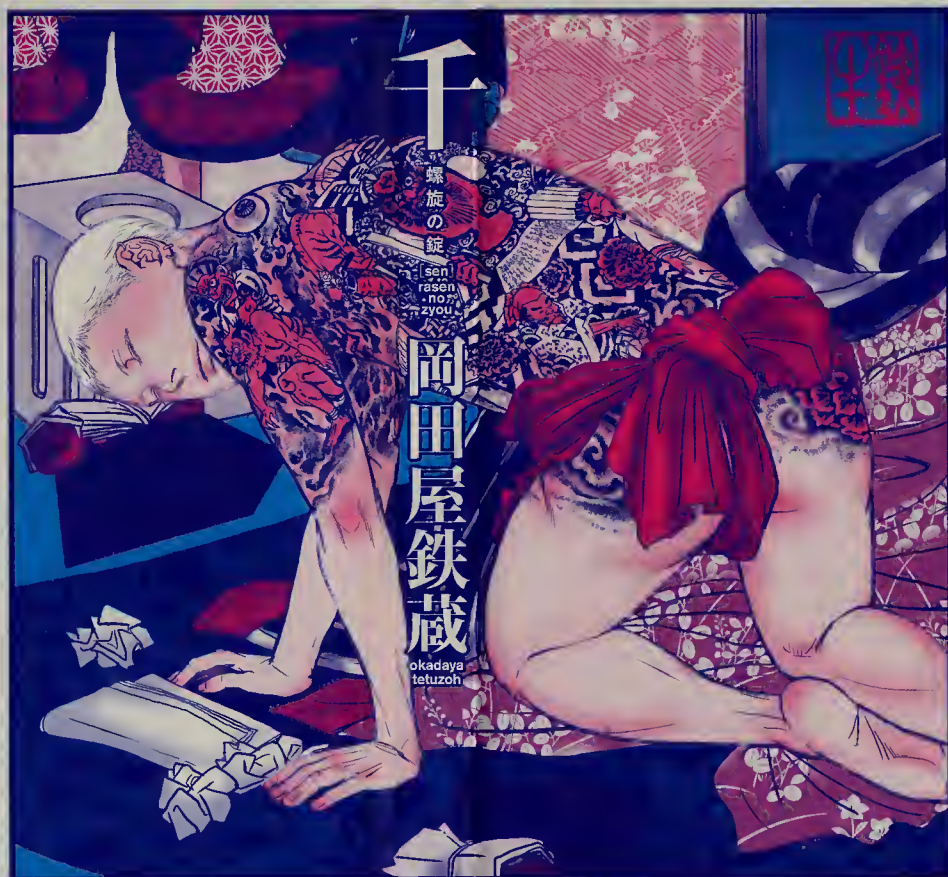
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[sen] rasen no zyou
(episode 1)
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:
anonymous

please purchase manga
if you are able to.



岡田屋鉄蔵

螺旋の錠

sen rasen no zyou

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KILL,
KILL,
KILL.

VEN-
GEANCE.

HATRED.

RESENT-
MENT.

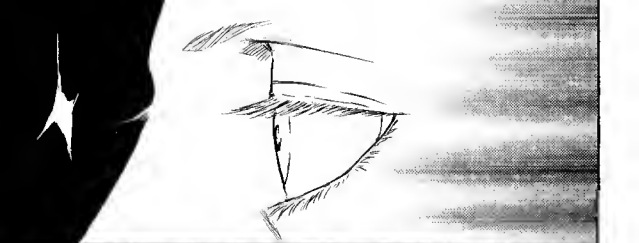
KILL,
KILL.

UNFOR-
GIVABLE.

MUST
KILL,
MUST
KILL.

EVEN IF
IT MEANS
I HAVE TO
PAY WITH
MY SOUL.

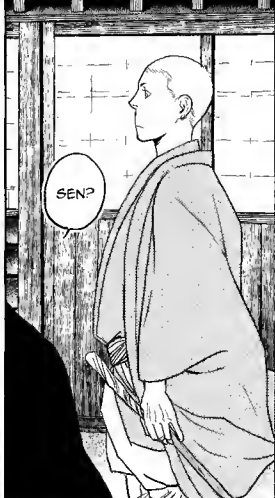






白楊 (ハルヒ)

第一話





WHAT
KIND
OF OB-
STACLE?



THIS HAS
NEVER
HAPPENED
BEFORE.

I WAS
CALLED
HERE BY
SOMEONE.
BUT THE
CALLER'S
VOICE IS IN-
TERRUPTED
BY AN OB-
STACLE.



WHEN I
APPROACH
THE SUM-
MONER'S
SOUL, IT
POPS UP.

A
HAND.

A
HAND?

YES.
WELL,
A HUGE,
MEATY,
PALE PALM
ANYWAY.



WHAT
IN THE
WORLD IS
GOING
ON?

THIS
HAS ME A
BIT CON-
CERNED.

I COULD
LET IT BE
AND MOVE
ON TO THE
NEXT ONE,
BUT...



SO THE
SOUL HAS A
BODYSUARD
FOR NOW.



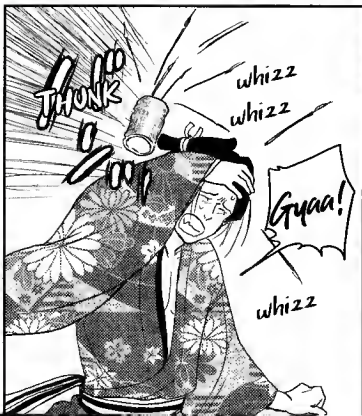
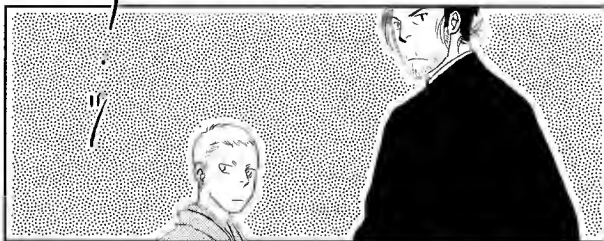
BEFORE
THE HAND IT
WAS ABLE
TO CALL ME?
STRANGE.



I'LL ASK
AROUND
FOR A
DOJO.

THAT'S
FINE, BUT
WE'LL NEED
MONEY FOR
LODGING.

LET'S STAY
FOR A
WHILE AND
SEE WHAT
HAPPENS.





WELL...

YOU GOT
ONE THING
RIGHT. MY
PAINTINGS
ARE A
WASTE OF
PAPER.

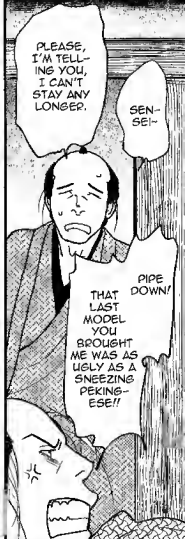


SHUT UP,
YOU
FUCKING
BRAT!

I
COULDN'T
CARE LESS
HOW HOW
IN-DEMAND
YOU ARE,
BUT...

QUIT YOUR
BITCHING OR
I'LL SHOVE A
HOUSEBOAT
UP YOUR ASS!

YIKES!







IT
WON'T
HAPPEN
AGAIN.

THAT
WAS VERY
RUDE OF
ME. I
APOLO-
GIZE.

IT'S A QUIRK
OF EITSU-SAN'S
NATURE THAT IF
A PAINTING IS
TOUCHED BEFORE
IT'S FINISHED HE
CAN'T COMPLETE IT.

I'M- I'M-
I'M VERY
SORRY!!



SAMURAI
SIR, I'M
SORRY
BUT...

DON'T
TOUCH
THOSE
WITHOUT
PERMISS-
SION.

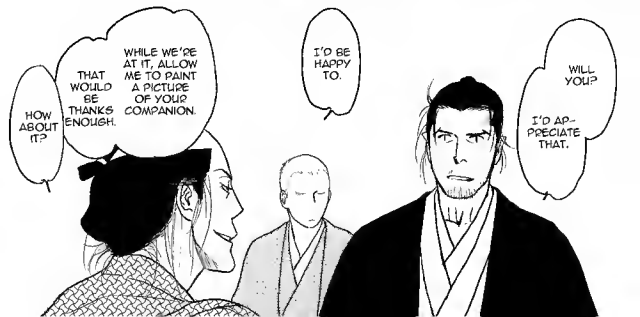
NOW,
SENSEI-



AS AN APOLOGY,
I'LL INTRODUCE
YOU TO A WELL-
PAYING DOJO
IF YOU LIKE.

THAT
PAINTING
OF A SCENE
IN HELL IS
JUST A BIT
SPECIAL.

NO, LET ME
APOLOGIZE.
I'M SORRY
TO BE SO
SENSITIVE.



HOW
ABOUT
IT?

THAT
WOULD
BE
THANKS
ENOUGH.

WHILE WE'RE
AT IT, ALLOW
ME TO PAINT
A PICTURE
OF YOUR
COMPANION.

I'D BE
HAPPY
TO.

WILL
YOU?

I'D AP-
PRECIATE
THAT.



WELL,
HA HA!
AS
YOU
CAN
GUESS!

...WHAT THE
HELL IS
THIS ALL
ABOUT?

JUST...



...YOU CAN
STOP IF YOU
DON'T WANT
TO DO IT.
WHAT DO
YOU SAY?

THE
MONEY'S
GOOD,
BUT...



HOWEVER,
SHOULD YOU
BE DOING
THIS KIND OF
WORK WHILE
YOU'RE ON
RETAINER TO
THE DAIMYO?

IF I CAN
MAKE EASY
MONEY I
HAVE NO
COMPLAINTS.

I DON'T CARE.
IT'S A LITTLE
LATE TO HIDE
MY BODY NOW.



EVEN
THOUGH
IT ALLOWS
ME TO PAINT
GORGEOUS
PICTURES.

IT'S
QUITE IN-
CONVE-
NIENT!

YOU'VE
CERTAINLY
COME UP
IN THE
WORLD.



DOING ONLY
THE DAIMYO'S
WORK DRAINS
ME DRY!

WELL, I
ORIGINALLY
SPECIALIZED
IN PILLOW
DRAWINGS.

THE
DAIMYO
DOESN'T
MIND
THOSE
EITHER!
Heh
heh
heh!



IT COM-
PLETELY
CHANGED
MY LIFE.

YOU SEE,
I PAINTED
A POPULAR
SUMO WRES-
TLER ON A
LARK, AND
MY FATE WAS
SEALED.



YOKOZUNA
SHIRASAJI?
OR COULD IT
BE JURYO
SANNO?

WAS HE
A WELL
KNOWN
WRES-
TLER?

PLEASE
LET ME
HEAR IT.

SOUNDS
LIKE AN IN-
TERESTING
STORY.



<harite (張り手): to rapidly deliver open hand strikes to the opponent.



FROM THE
MOMENT I
FIRST SAW
HOKURIYO...
...I KNEW HE
WOULD FOLLOW
SHIRAGAJI AS THE
NEXT YOKOZUNA.



HE ENTERED
HIS FIRST
TOURNAMENT
AT THE AGE
OF TWENTY

WITHIN FOUR
YEARS HE
HAD SHOT UP
TO OZEKI

HE NEVER
ONCE WRES-
TLED DIRTY

IT WENT
AGAINST HIS
CONSCIENCE TO
CALL "FALSE
START."

I WIT-
NESSED
IT ONLY
ONCE.

IN CONTRAST
TO HIS PRETTY
FACE HE WAS
ACTUALLY GOOD
AND MANLY.
WHEN IT CAME
TO SUMO.

"I'D LIKE TO
PAINT THE BAS-
TARD," I THOUGHT
TO MYSELF. THAT
HAD NEVER HAP-
PENED BEFORE.

SO I
PAINTED
HIM.

THANKS
TO HOKURIYU.
IN LESS THAN NO
TIME I TOO HAD
JOINED THE RANKS
OF THE POPULAR.

THE PRINTS
SOLD LIKE
HOTCAKES.





...THE GRATITUDE IS MINE.
I'M EARNING
MONEY THANKS
TO YOU.

NOT
AT ALL,
THAT IS...

EVERY-
BODY IN MY
HOMETOWN
WAS DE-
LIGHTED WHEN
I SENT YOUR PRINTS.

ANYWAY,
THIS IS
AWK-
WARD.

I'VE BEEN
WANTING TO
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR WONDER-
FUL WORK.



OH...

WELL,
FORGIVE
ME...



HMP



YOU SEE,
I'VE ALWAYS
STRAINED MY
EYES WATCHING
YOU FROM THE
SECOND FLOOR
SEATING.

HERE IN
THE LIVING
FLESH RIGHT
IN FRONT
OF ME...

I'D LIKE
TO HAVE
YOU PERMA-
NENTLY EN-
GRAVED ON
MY EYEBALLS.
IT'S MY IM-
POVERISHED
PAINTER'S
SPIRIT.



YOU'VE
COME TO
EVERY SINGLE
BOULT SINCE
MY FIRST
TOURNAMENT.



EHP?



I
KNOW
YOU
HAVE.



IT'S TOO
CROWDED
UPSTAIRS
TO HOLD
A BRUSH.

EHP?



I'LL HAVE
A PRIVATE
BOX SET
UP FOR
YOU NEXT
TIME.

EHP?



WELL, NO,
RATHER...



I'D LIKE
YOU TO
PAINT
MORE.



THAT
SOUNDS
GREAT,
BUT...

SERI-
OUSLY!?
EH!!!?



I THOUGHT
SOMEONE
FROM THE
PATRON
SET WOULD
APPROACH
ME ONCE
I FINALLY
ENTERED
THE RING.

I WAS
SOLD TO
THE STABLE
AT 14. UNDER
THE CARE OF
MY SENIOR
STABLEMATES,
ALL I'VE DONE
IS TRAIN, TRAIN,
TRAIN.

WHAAAT?
YOU HAVEN'T
KNOWN A
WOMAN YET!?
WHAT THE
HELL HAVE
YOU BEEN
DOING!?

SUMO,
THAT'S
WHAT.

AH,
WELL,
THAT'S
HOW IT
GOES.

JUST
LIKE A
MALE
GEISHA.

IT'LL
HAPPEN
BY AND BY.
DIPPING YOUR
BRUSH IS
NOTHING
SPECIAL.

ALRIGHT,
ALRIGHT.

NOT
ME!

TEACH
YOU THE
BASICS
OF LOVE!?

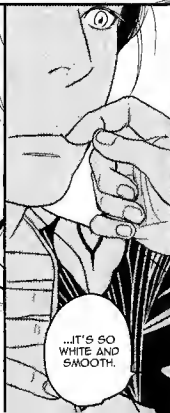
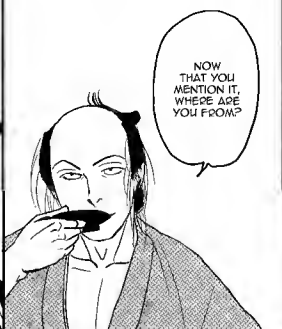
NO!

IDIOT!

CAN I DIP
MY BRUSH
WITH YOU,
NAM-SAN?

NEXT TO SUMO,
THE ONLY THING
I'VE EVER LEARNED
IS HOW TO CATCH
FISH IN MY HOME
VILLAGE.

I BET YOU
KNOW ALL
THE INS AND OUTS,
NAM-SAN.





YOUR HAND IS
NICE AND COOL,
NAM-SAN. IT
FEELS GOOD.

...I'M
DRUNK
TOO.

SHALL
WE DRINK
A LITTLE
MORE?

HEY,
HONOJI.

HMP



JUST A
LITTLE.

AHH...
WILL IT
FEEL EVEN
BETTER?



YOU'RE
BEAUTIFUL.



SHALL
I TELL
YOU WHAT
I THINK
OF YOUR
CALIBER?

DEEP
IN MY
HEART.

PFPT.

WHERE
DID THAT
COME
FROM?

IT'S TRUE.
I DON'T KNOW
ANYONE AS
BEAUTIFUL
AS YOU.



I MAY BE A
GOOD-FOR-
NOTHING, BUT I
FEEL I IMPROVE
JUST A LITTLE AS
A HUMAN BEING
WHEN I'M WITH
YOU, HONOJI.

I'M SURE
YOU'LL BE
NAMED YO-
KOZUNA.



ICHIROTA.

MY OLD
NAME.

PLEASE
CALL ME
THAT,
NAM-SAN.

ICHI-
ROTA.

IT'S
ICHI-
ROTA.

HMP



HE WANTED TO BE CALLED BY HIS REAL NAME WHEN WE WERE ALONE SO HE COULD FORGET ABOUT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE STABLE.

ASIDE FROM TRAINING, HE SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME IN MY TENEMENT.

RENEWING HIS WINNING STREAK, HOKURIYU WAS PROMOTED TO OZEKI, FAR OUTPACING THE RANKS OF HIS STABLEMATES.





YAMASHI-ROYA-SAN...

THAT PAINTER...

ASSOCIATING WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIM ISN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA.

I'M SAYING THAT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.



YOU DON'T WANT TO ENDANGER YOUR CAREER, DO YOU?

WHO IS IT THAT SUPPORTS YOU?

"HE CAN'T DO ANYTHING."

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT. AND THEN...

THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER GUYS WHO WOULD BACK YOU FINANCIALLY NOW.

YAMASHI-ROYA-SAN, GET RID OF HIM!

YAMASHI-ROYA-SAN? THAT DIRTY OLD MAN.

FORGET HIM. FORGET HIM. HE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ANYWAY.



...THE DAIMYOS DESIRED TO WATCH THE UNBEATEN NEW OZEKI HOKURIYU GOEMON COMPETE.

AS A RULE, HOKURIYU'S SENIOR STABLE-MATE SANNO WENT OUT EVERY YEAR, BUT...

THE IMPERIAL MATCH THAT YEAR.

WHAT HAPPENED?

THE WHOLE TOWN WAS WHIPPED INTO A FRENZY FOR THE SHOWDOWN BETWEEN THE TWO.

SHIRAGAJI THE GIANT VS. "HARITE" HOKURIYU.

HIS EXCLUSIVE OPPONENT, REIGNING YOKOZUNA SHIRAGAJI KARAKU.



THEIR JEALOUSY TOWARD HOKURIYU HAD SUDDENLY TURNED TO HATRED.

BUT IT HELD NO INTEREST FOR SANNO AND THE OTHER STABLEMATES.



OUT
OF
THE
WAY!

LET ME
THROUGH!!

YAMASHIROVA
WENT THERE
TO WHISPER

SURELY
THEY WOULD
BE DISAP-
POINTED

THE
DAIMYOS
WANT TO SEE
HOKURIYU'S
HARITE
TECHNIQUE.

WHAT IF
HE WERE
UNABLE TO
USE THAT
TECH-
NIQUE?

AS FOR ME,
I HAVE NO
LINGERING
ATTACH-
MENT TO
HOKURIYU
GOEMON.

IT
WOULDN'T
BOTHER ME
IF ONE OR
EVEN BOTH
OF HIS
ARMS WERE
RENDERED
USELESS.

IF YOU GET
TO THAT KID,
I'LL BUY OFF
THE AUTHORITIES
NO MATTER HOW
STEEP THE PRICE.





BASTARD,
YOU CALL
YOURSELF
A DOCTOR!?

NOT USE
HIS RIGHT
HAND...?



HIS FIST
HAS BEEN
COMPLETELY
CRUSHED.



NOW,
CALM
DOWN!

DO
SOME-
THING!

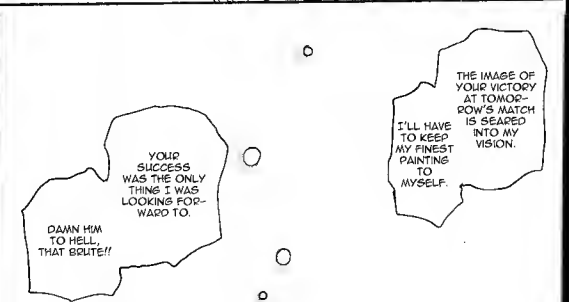
YOU
QUACK!!
ICHIROTA
IS A SUMO
WRESTLER!



ISN'T
THERE
SOME-
THING
STRANGE
ABOUT
THIS!?

HOKU-
RIYU'S
RIGHT
HAND.

IT
CAN'T
BE!



YOUR
SUCCESS
WAS THE ONLY
THING I WAS
LOOKING FOR-
WARD TO.

DAMN HIM
TO HELL,
THAT BRUTE!!

THE IMAGE OF
YOUR VICTORY
AT TOMOR-
ROW'S MATCH
IS SEARED
INTO MY
VISION.
I'LL HAVE
TO KEEP
MY FINEST
PAINTING
TO
MYSELF.



WAIT,
STABLE-
MASTER!!

THERE'S
NO OTHER
OPTION.
SANNÔ
WILL HAVE
TO FIGHT
THE IMPE-
RIAL
MATCH-

THE AUTHORITIES
PAID OFF BY
YAMASHIROYA...

...DIDN'T DO A
PROPER CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATION.



YOUR BONES
CAN'T MEND
IN THAT TIME.
EVEN IF YOU
DO ENTER THE
RING IT'LL PUT
SHIRASAJI ON
THE SPOT.

EVEN SO,
IT'S IN TEN
DAYS!

THE
DAIMYOS
HAVE RE-
QUESTED
ME.
PASS
OFF THAT RESPONS-
IBILITY TO SANNÔ?



SHIRASA-
JI-SAN IS
A TRUE YO-
KOZUNA.

HE WON'T
DISMISS MY
INTENTIONS.
HE'LL GIVE
ME A REAL
MATCH.

TEN
DAYS
IS ALL
I NEED.
I CAN
FIGHT
THE
MATCH!

THE
DAIMYOS
MUST NOT
BE DISAP-
POINTED
WHEN IT
COMES TO
SUMO!



NAM-SAN.



WAIT, WAIT!
WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT!?

IF YOU
SERIOUSLY
TAKE ON
SHIRASAJI
IN THAT
CONDITION...



...YOU'LL
DEPI-
NITELY
DIE.



PAINT
A GREAT
PORTRAIT
OF ME!

ONE
FOR
THE
AGES.



WHY
DIDN'T
YOU
STOP
HIM?

YOU CAN
SURVIVE BY
SELLING
YOUR BODY
TO YAMASHI-
ROYA AND
LETTING HIM
KEEP YOU?

STOP HIM?
WHAT WAS I
SUPPOSED
TO SAY?



...ALL I
COULD
DO WAS
WATCH.



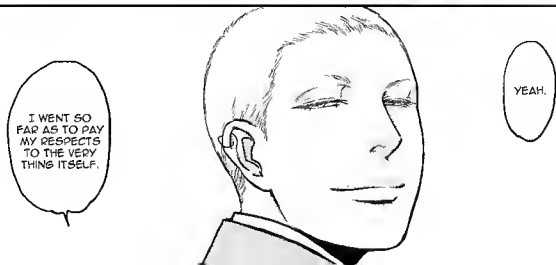
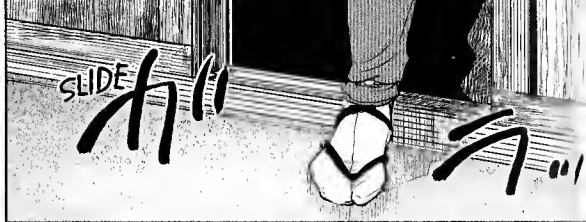
SO...



I DIDN'T
HAVE THE
POWER OR
THE MEANS
TO PROTECT
HIM IF HE
COULDN'T BE
A WRESTLER.

OLD MAN
YAMASHIROYA
WOULD HAVE
DONE ANY-
THING TO GET
TO HOKURANGI.

HE MIGHT
HAVE DE-
PRIVED HIM
OF BOTH HIS
LEGS NEXT.
HE MIGHT
HAVE TAKEN
MY LIFE.

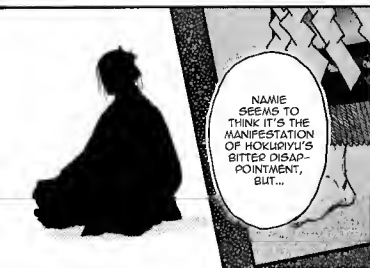




THAT'S
BIZARRE.

HE SAID NO
MATTER HOW
MANY TIMES
HE REPAINTS
IT, THAT PART
OF THE RIGHT
ARM VAN-
ISHES.

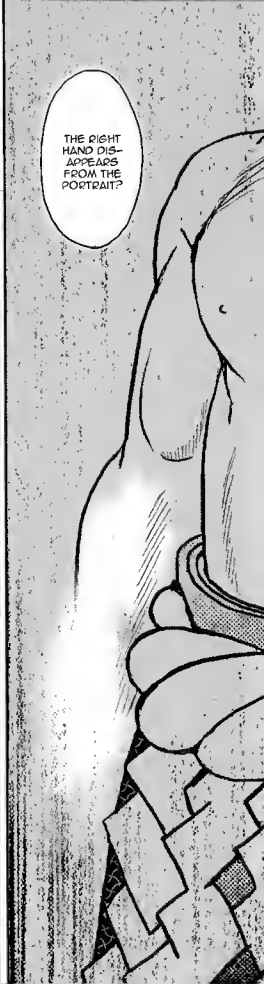
THE RIGHT
HAND DIS-
APPEARS
FROM THE
PORTRAIT?



NAME
SEEMS TO
THINK IT'S THE
MANIFESTATION
OF HOKURIYU'S
BITTER DISAP-
POINTMENT,
BUT...



...THAT'S
NOT IT.





LOOKING
CAREFULLY,
THAT RIGHT
HAND WAS
STICKING
CLOSE TO
NAMIE ETSU.

IT WOULDN'T
ALLOW ANY
TYPE OF HARM
TO COME
NEAR HIM.



DANNA,
THAT SCENE
FROM HELL
YOU SAW
WAS ONE
OF EIGHT
PAINTINGS
IN TOTAL.

THAT WAS A
PAINTING OF
YAMASHIROYA
BEING TORTURED,
AND THERE WAS
ONE EACH FOR
THE STABLE-
MATES, INCLUD-
ING SANNO OF
COURSE.

THOSE PIC-
TURES WERE
TO ILLUS-
TRATE WHAT
HE WISHED
FOR IN HIS
CONTRACT.

BUT
BECAUSE
OF THAT
RIGHT HAND,
I CAN'T GET
ANYWHERE.
I GIVE UP!



I'M RUNNING
AWAY WITH MY
TAIL BETWEEN
MY LEGS!

Haha!



I SEE.

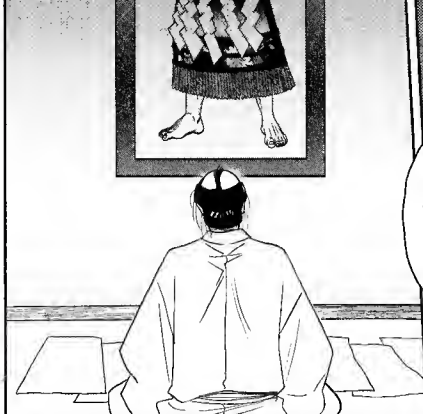


THAT RIGHT
HAND WON'T
TOLERATE
NAMIE HURT-
ING HIMSELF,
EITHER.

APPARENTLY
HE HAS SOME
AMBITIOUS
SCENARIO
PLANNED OUT
FOR TOMOR-
ROW, THE AN-
NIVERSARY OF
HOKURIYU'S
DEATH,
BUT...

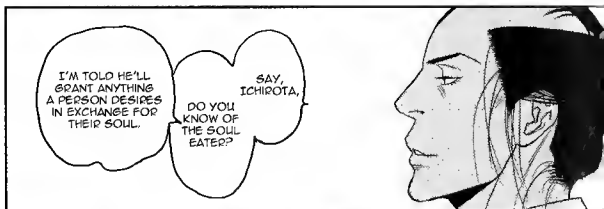
IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
A BIT.

BUT... IS IT
ALRIGHT TO
LEAVE NAMIE
STEWING
LIKE THAT?



AH WELL,
THERE ARE
THOSE WHO
WOULD IMPETU-
OUSLY DESTROY
THEMSELVES,
LEAVING BEHIND
THEIR DETEST-
ABLE ENEMIES.

NAMIE
WILL JUST
HAVE TO
WAIT FOR
A WHILE.



I'M TOLD HE'LL
GRANT ANYTHING
A PERSON DESIRES
IN EXCHANGE FOR
THEIR SOUL.

SAY,
ICHIROTA,
DO YOU
KNOW OF
THE SOUL
EATER?



I'M GOING
TO FIND OUT
WHETHER
IT'S TRUE
OR NOT.

SOUL EATER,
I WISH YOU
TO KILL EVERY
SINGLE PILE OF
STABLE MANURE
IN THESE PAINT-
INGS AND HURL
THEM INTO HELL.

WELL,
IT WILL
SOON BE
TOMOR-
ROW.

I HAVE
TO GO.





WHY DON'T
YOU MIND
YOUR OWN
BUSINESS?
THIS IS VEN-
GEANCE.



YOU,
JUST HOW
GOOD CAN A
PERSON BE,

ICHIROTA.

OH,
WHAT-
EVER.

HEY...
WHERE
DID THAT
COME
FROM?

NAM-
SAN,

I'M SO
GLAD I
MET YOU.

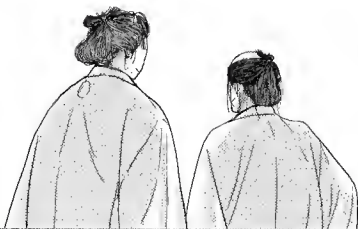


I WISH WE
HAD MET
SOONER.

WELL, I HATE
TO SAY IT, BUT
THERE'S NOTH-
ING I CAN DO
ABOUT THAT.

THE NEXT LIFE?
HA HA. THAT'S A
LONG WAY OFF.

WELL, LET'S
MEET SOONER IN
THE NEXT LIFE.



AND YOU'LL
PAINT A POR-
TRAIT OF ME
FOR THE AGES,
NAM-SAN?


MAKE YOUR
NAME AS A GREAT
YOKOZUNA IN THE
NEXT LIFE SO I
REMEMBER YOU
QUICKLY.



IN THE
NEXT
LIFE.

OF COURSE
I WILL. OF
COURSE.





[sen] rasen no zyou
(episode 2)
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:
anonymous

please purchase manga
if you are able to.



TIP TOE
TIP TOE

SNEAK



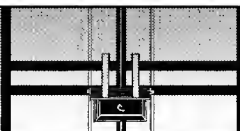
WAIT,
NIISAN,
THIS ROOM...

KICHI!

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING,
WE'RE
PULLING
OUT!



IT'S
LOCKED.
AREN'T YOU
CURIOUS?



...WE DIDN'T
HAVE TIME
TO LOOK IN
HERE LAST
YEAR.



SLIDE



ENOUGH!
YOU'RE
ALWAYS
POKING
YOUR NOSE
WHERE IT
DOESN'T
BELONG.
COME
ON.



I'D LIKE
TO GET ALL
WE CAN GET
WHILE
WE'RE AT IT.

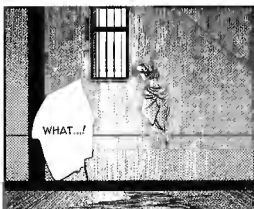


THIS IS HORRIBLE...
THEY...

DON'T
TELL
ME...



WHAT...!



CREAK



THE BAS-
TARDS TORTURED
THEIR CHILD TO
DEATH.



I'LL
KILL...

...EVERY
SINGLE
ONE OF
THEM!



UN-
FOR-
GIV-
ABLE

UN-
FOR-
GIV-
ABLE...!




OH,
NI-
SAN...



I'LL
KILL
THEM
ALL...!

第一話



AT ONE TIME
IN SUNOKUNI
LIVED A VIL-
LAIN WITH NO
LIMIT TO HIS
BARBARITY.

SAHEI THE
TSUCHIGUMO
AND HIS
MINIONS.

MERCILESSLY
ABDUCTING AND
KILLING WOMEN
AND CHILDREN,
THOSE BRUTAL
DEVILS TERROR-
IZED THE TOWN.

HOWEVER,
FIFTEEN YEARS
AGO HE WAS
KILLED AT THE
HANDS OF ONE
OF HIS GANG
MEMBERS.

SPECULATION
RAN RAMPANT
BUT THE TRUTH
WAS NEVER
KNOWN.

IT WAS
GENERALLY
ACCEPTED
AS DIVINE
PUNISHMENT.

STILL, THIS
YEAR A BANDIT
CLAIMING TO
BE THE SECOND
GENERATION
TSUCHIGUMO
HAS APPEARED.

ACCORDING TO
THE TESTIMONY
OF SOMEONE
INVOLVED WITH
THE PREDECESSOR,
IT SEEMS
SAHEI HAD A
DAUGHTER NAMED
"OYOSHI," BUT...

...THE METHODS
USED IN THESE
ACTS WERE TOO
SAVAGE AND
VIOLENT FOR
THE PERPETRATOR
TO BE A
FEMALE BANDIT.

THAT'S THE
FIFTH TIME
THIS YEAR.

FUCKING
TERRIBLE.

THIS
SENSELESS
SLAUGHTER!



EVERYONE
KILLED,
FROM THE
SALES
CLERK TO
THE MAID.

THE
PREVIOUS
SAHEI WAS
EVIL TOO,
BUT EVEN HE
WASN'T AS
RUTHLESS
AS HIS
DAUGHTER!

BUT I
DON'T
THINK
IT'S A
MAN.



THIS TIME
IT'S A PAPER
WHOLESALER
IN MIHOCHO!



OH, IT'S
DESPI-
CABLE!
DREAD-
FUL!

I WONDER
WHAT SHE'S
PLANNING
TO DO WITH
THEM.

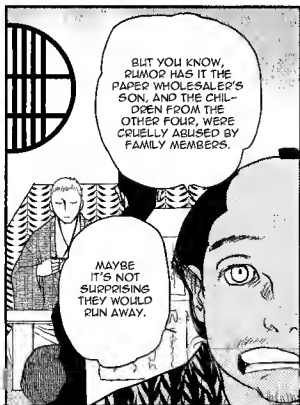
THEY SAY
THE CHILDREN
AREN'T KILLED,
BUT CARRIED
OFF FOR SOME
REASON.



I'M SURE
THEY'LL BE
SOLD OFF!

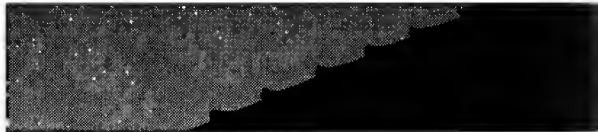
NO,
NO!

WITH SO
MUCH KILLING
THERE'S NO
PLAYING THE
CHIVALROUS
BANDIT.



BUT YOU KNOW,
RUMOR HAS IT THE
PAPER WHOLESALER'S
SON, AND THE CHIL-
DREN FROM THE
OTHER FOUR, WERE
CRUELLY ABUSED BY
FAMILY MEMBERS.

MAYBE
IT'S NOT
SURPRISING
THEY WOULD
RUN AWAY.





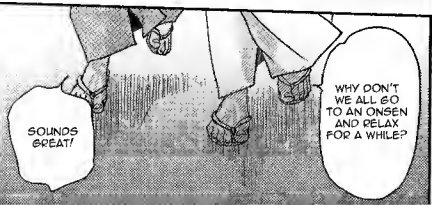
I GUESS
EVERYONE
HAS MADE IT
BACK TO THE
TEMPLE BY
NOW.



I'M SURE
THEY ALL
TOOK SEPA-
RATE ROUTES
AS USUAL.



THE NEXT
JOB IS
SETTLED.



SOUNDS
GREAT!

WHY DON'T
WE ALL GO
TO AN ONSEN
AND RELAX
FOR A WHILE?





...MY
DEAD
BODY.



HOLD IT,
KISHO.

SHH.

I'VE
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO GO-



OH.

YOU
SPOT-
TED ME.



OI, YOU
THERE.

STATE
YOUR
BUSI-
NESS.



OVER...

KACHANE

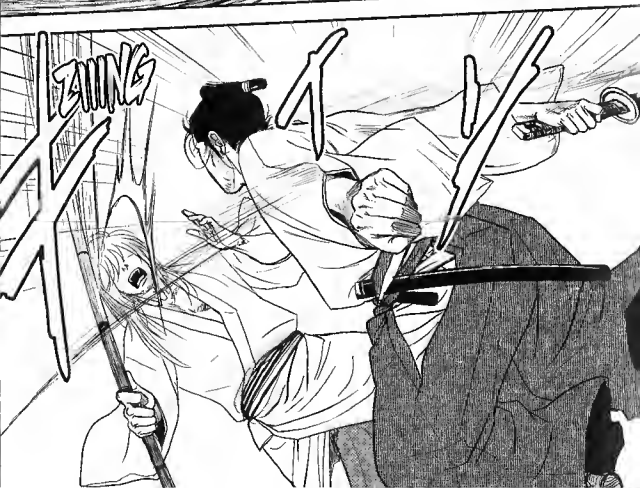


IS IT
MONEY
YOU
WANT?

Slide
up

I'LL
GIVE YOU
MONEY.









COME BACK
HERE TO-
MORROW
NIGHT AND
PAY IT IN
FULL!

IF YOU
WANT HIM
BACK, IT'LL
COST 500
RYO!!

HEY!



BAS-
TARD
...!!

HOW
DARE
YOU!?
KISHO
...

HE'S
NOT
DEAD.

I JUST
HIM WITH
THE FLAT
OF MY
SWORD.



GIVE ME
KISHO! GIVE
ME BACK...

DASH

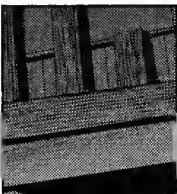
MY
BRO-
THER!

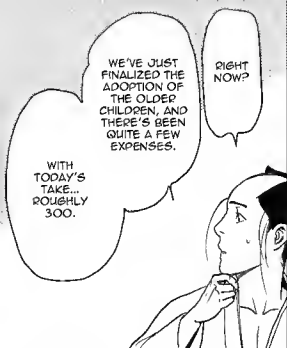
WAIT, YOU
SON OF A
BITCH!



**ALL
LLLLLLL
LGH
HHHH!**

**GIVE
HIM
BAAA
CK!!**





HIS
SKILLS
ARE
MORE
THAN
ORDI-
NARY.

I'LL DO
AS HE SAYS
AND GET
THE MONEY.
IT'S KICHI.

DON'T
TELL ME
IT WAS
THE AU-
THORI-
TIES.

MAYBE
SOME
ROTTEN
VERMIN IN
THE SAME
BUSINESS
AS US HIRED
A RONIN
WHO LIKES
TO SWING
HIS SWORD
AROUND.

THE AU-
THORITIES?
THEY'RE TOO
STUPID TO
TRACK US
DOWN.

WE
WERE
SUDDENLY
ATTACKED
AND HE
WAS
TAKEN
AWAY.

I DON'T
REALLY
KNOW
EITHER.

I WAS
TOLD TO
BRING 500
RYO TO-
MORROW
NIGHT.

THAT'S WHY
I'M GOING
ALONE.

IT COULD
BE A TRAP!

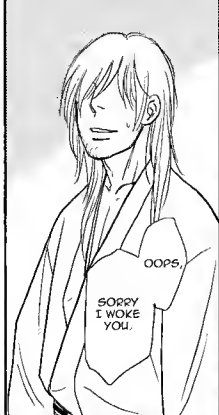
BUT,
BOSS!

ALRIGHT,
BUT...!?

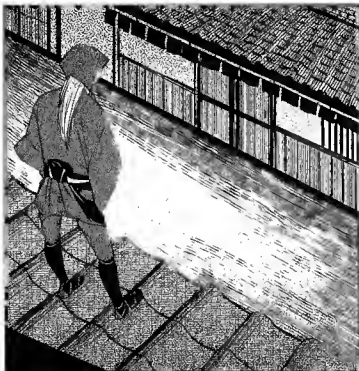
...!

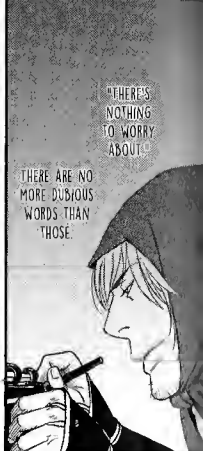
IF I'M NOT
BACK BY
THE DAY
AFTER TO-
MORROW...

TAKE THE
WOMEN
AND CHIL-
DREN AND
GET AWAY
FROM
HERE.



I'LL BE
BACK
SOON.
THERE'S
NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT.





"THERE'S
NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT."

THERE ARE NO
MORE DUBIOUS
WORDS THAN
THOSE.

"THERE'S NOTHING
TO WORRY ABOUT.
I'LL BE BACK SOON."

I NEVER
BELIEVED
THOSE
WORDS.



THIS IS GREAT!
TSUCHIGUMO
OF SAHEI HAS
FOUND A
JIGUMO KID!!

WHAT'S
THE
POWER
IN
HIS

IS
HUMAN
SEEMS
MORE
LIKE A
JIGUMO!

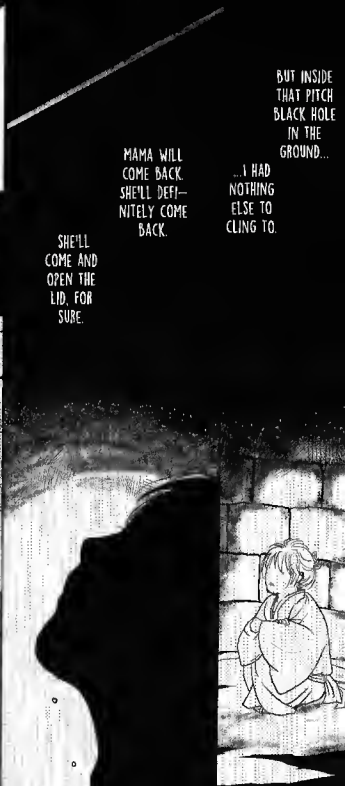
MAMA WILL
COME BACK.
SHE'LL DEFINITELY
COME BACK.

SHE'LL
COME AND
OPEN THE
LID, FOR
SURE.

BUT INSIDE
THAT PITCH
BLACK HOLE
IN THE
GROUND...

...I HAD
NOTHING
ELSE TO
CLING TO.

click
4p



WHAT
IS THE
MEANING
OF THIS!?
WHERE
IS HE?

THE
AGREE-
MENT WAS
FOR TO-
MORROW
NIGHT!

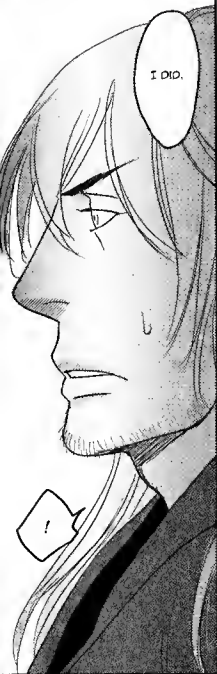
SO
YOU
CAME...

TSUCHI-
GUMO.

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE IN THE
FIRST PLACE!?

...!

YOU...!!



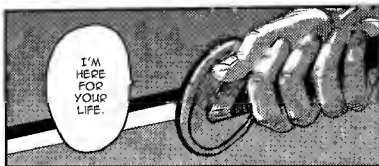
I DID.



TO TELL
YOU THE
TRUTH
THIS ISN'T
ABOUT
MONEY.



THEN,
WHAT?



I'M
HERE
FOR
YOUR
LIFE.



WHO
PUT YOU
UP TO
IT?

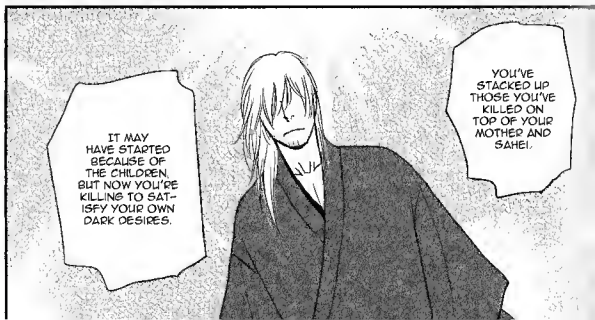


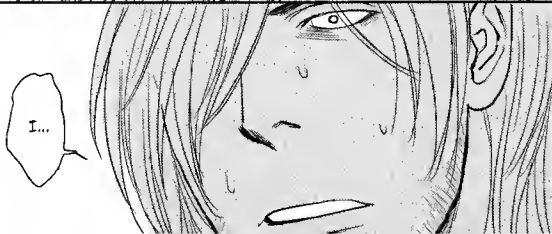
YOU'VE GONE
TOO FAR,
YOSHINOBUKE-
NIISAN.



KISHO?

KI-!









WHAT A SHAME.



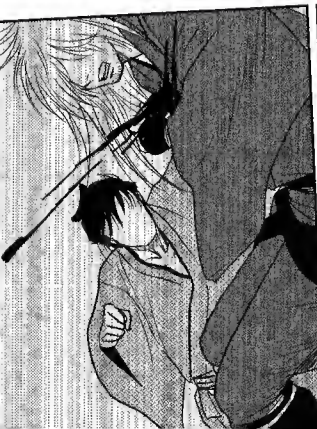
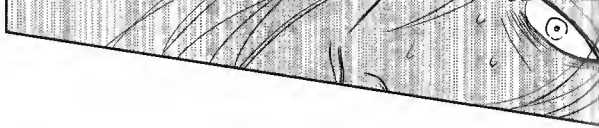
AS SKILLED AS YOU ARE...



...YOU NEVER FOUND A WAY TO LIVE.



WHOOSH







IT IS
MY FAULT.
IT'S ALL
MY FAULT.

YOU'RE
WRONG,
NISAN.

NOT
AT
ALL.

IT'S
NOT
YOUR
FAULT.



IT'S
AL-
RIGHT.
YOU'RE
A GOOD
BOY.
I'M NOT
ANGRY.



YOUR LIFE
WAS COM-
PLETELY
UNDONE...

THE DAY
I WAS
BORN!

IT'S
BECAUSE
OF HIM!!

BECAUSE
OF THIS KID
I COULDN'T
LEAVE. THERE
WAS NOTHING
I COULD DO
ABOUT IT!

I HAD TO
ABANDON YOU.
I WAS TOLD
WE COULDN'T
BE TOGETHER.
I HAD NO
CHOICE.

IT WAS JUST A
COINCIDENCE THAT
HE BROKE IN TO
ROB THE VERY
SHOP OF THE
MOTHER WHO HAD
ABANDONED HIM.

YOUNG YOSHI-
NOSUKE WAS
THIRTEEN AND
WORKING IN THE
SUCHIGUMO
GANG.

FIVE YEARS
HAD PASSED
SINCE YAMU
HAD RESCUED
HIM FROM
THE WELLS.

YOU CAN
DO AS
YOU LIKE
WITH THIS
CHILD!

I BEG YOU
PLEASE
HELP ME.

DON'T YOU
HATE HIM?
YOU AND I
WERE TORN
APART BE-
CAUSE OF
HIM.

RECOGNIZING
YOSHINOSUKE-HIS
MOTHER PLEADED
FOR HER LIFE.

YOSHI-
I?

YOU'RE
YOSHI-
NOSUKE,
AREN'T
YOU?

spurt

THUD



WE HAVE
A SURPLUS
OF SERVANTS
RIGHT NOW,
SO...

OYOSHI,
TAKE HIM BACK
TO OUR PLACE
AND BREAK
HIM IN THOR-
OUGHLY.

AS A
"LITTLE
SISTER."



REVOLTING
WOMAN. I TOLD
HER TO KEEP
QUIET. HELL.

BOSS.



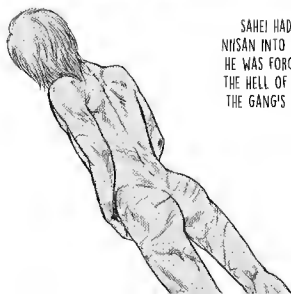
THIS IS
YOUR LITTLE
BROTHER.



LUNGE



WHILE I HAD BEEN
COMFORTABLY LIVING
THE LAST FIVE YEARS
AS THE SOLE HEIR
TO A HUGE STORE.



SAHEI HAD TURNED
NIISAN INTO A "WOMAN."
HE WAS FORCED TO LIVE
THE HELL OF SERVING AS
THE GANG'S PLAYTHING.

THERE WAS
NO TAKING
OF LIFE. THAT
WAS THE ONE
PRINCIPAL WE
LIVED BY.



THE
CHILDREN
WERE PUT
TO WORK
STEALING.

HE RAISED
US LIKE
A REAL
FAMILY.



TO ALL OF US,
NIISAN-TOOK
IN ABUSED AND
ABANDONED
CHILDREN.

EVEN SO,
NIISAN
WAS KIND
TO ME.

TERRIBLY
KIND.



...AND
OPENED
THAT DOOR.



UNTIL
I GOT
GREEDY...

THE BRUTAL
SLAUGHTER
BEGAN THAT
DAY.

BUT...

NIISAN
KILLED LIKE
A DEMON.



...WHEN HE
FINISHED HIS
WORK HE'D
RETURN TO
THE TEMPLE..



...AND CLING
TO ME DES-
PERATELY,

...SOB-
BING LIKE
A CHILD.





LIVING IN
A HELL ON
EARTH DID
THIS TO
NIISAN.





START
AFRESH!



I WILL
TAKE
ON ALL
YOUR
SIN.

YOU'LL
BE A
BLANK
SLATE.





LET'S
RETURN
HIM TO
HIS
FAMILY.



WHAT
DO WE
DO WITH
THAT?



...IS
LEAVING
THIS CHILD
IN OUR
CARE AND
GOING ON
A TRIP?

YOSHI-
SAN..



KISHO WAS
ALSO LIVING
IN A HELL
ON EARTH.

I KNEW
BETTER THAN
ANYONE WHY
YOSHINOSUKE
HAD BEEN
DRIVEN MAD.
I COULD
NEITHER STOP
HIM, NOR
SAVE HIM.



SO YOU'RE
SAYING KISHO
WAS ALSO SAVED
BY COMPENSAT-
ING FOR YOSHI-
NOSUKE'S SIN
WITH HIS OWN
SOUL?



I DON'T
KNOW.


I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND IT.

AFTER FIVE RAIDS,
THE VILLAINS WHO
CALLED THEMSELVES
THE TSUCHIGUMO
GANG NEVER AP-
PEARED AGAIN.

BUT I
HOPE
SO.

THE BOY RAISED
IN THE TEMPLE RUINS
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF
TOWN WOULD GAIN
NATIONAL FAME AS
A MASTER OF THE
SHORT SWORD...

THIRTEEN
YEARS
LATER.



[sen] rasen no zyou
(episode 3)
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:
anonymous

please purchase manga
if you are able to.

names and places, episode 3

Kusanagi Chikara (草薙主税) ronin, master swordsman
Sensai (千載, literal meaning 1000 years)

Futaba (双葉) member of the Seahorse Crew
Nagura Yosaburo (名倉与三郎) samurai assigned to Sakira
Saburo (佐布浪) Captain of the Seahorse Crew, "Anija" to Sakira
Sakira (佐紀螺) Seahorse Crew raid commander
Sakuro (佐久郎) member of the Seahorse Crew
Tsubaki (椿) niece to the Daimyo of Konokuni
Yamato Zaemon (大和座衛門) admiral of the Konokuni navy

Konokuni: domain of the Sea of High Tides
Okinokuni: ally to Konokuni
Kusanokuni: enemy of Konokuni



...GATHER—
ING HIS
BROTHERS.

THE VOICE OF
THE SEA SPIRIT
RINGS OUT...

THE
TIME
HAS
COME.

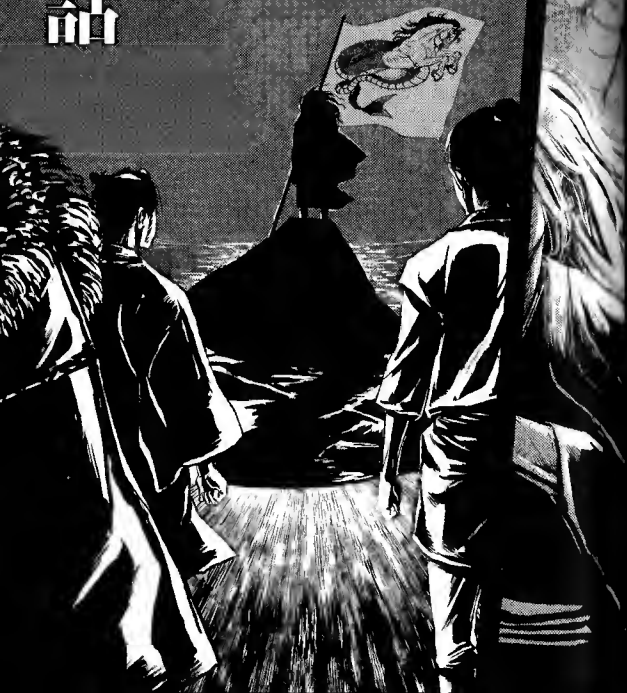
OH...!

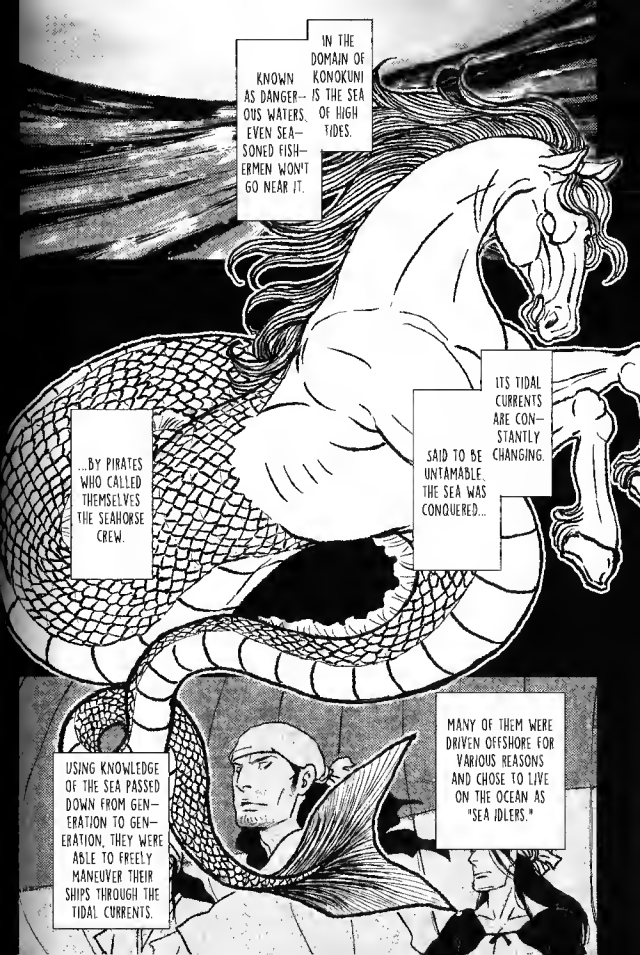
OII!!

第三話

...TO
RECLAIM
OUR SEAS.

GATHER
ING US...





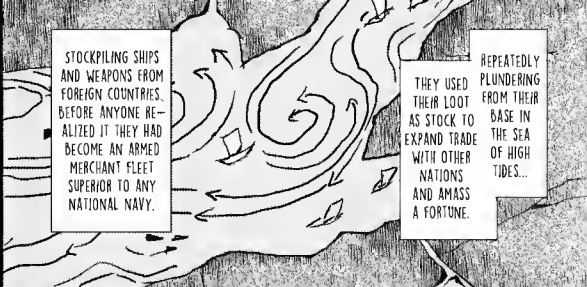
IN THE
DOMAIN OF
KONOKUNI
IS THE SEA
OF HIGH
TIDES.
KNOWN
AS DANGER--
OUS WATERS.
EVEN SEA--
SONED FISH--
ERMEN WON'T
GO NEAR IT.

...BY PIRATES
WHO CALLED
THEMSELVES
THE SEAHORSE
CREW.

ITS TIDAL
CURRENTS
ARE CON--
STANTLY
CHANGING.
SAID TO BE
UNTAMABLE,
THE SEA WAS
CONQUERED...

USING KNOWLEDGE
OF THE SEA PASSED
DOWN FROM GEN--
ERATION TO GEN--
ERATION, THEY WERE
ABLE TO FREELY
MANEUVER THEIR
SHIPS THROUGH THE
TIDAL CURRENTS.


MANY OF THEM WERE
DRIVEN OFFSHORE FOR
VARIOUS REASONS
AND CHOSE TO LIVE
ON THE OCEAN AS
"SEA IDLERS."



STOCKPILING SHIPS
AND WEAPONS FROM
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.
BEFORE ANYONE RE-
ALIZED IT THEY HAD
BECOME AN ARMED
MERCHANT FLEET
SUPERIOR TO ANY
NATIONAL NAVY.

THEY USED
THEIR LOOT
AS STOCK TO
EXPAND TRADE
WITH OTHER
NATIONS
AND AMASS
A FORTUNE.

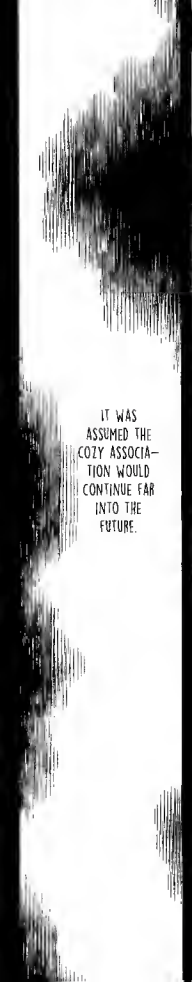
REPEATEDLY
PLUNDERING
FROM THEIR
BASE IN
THE SEA
OF HIGH
TIDES...



BY GRANTING
THEM FREE TRADE
RIGHTS IN THE
SEA OF HIGH
TIDES, KONOKUNI
PERSUADED THEM
TO ESTABLISH
A COOPERATIVE
RELATIONSHIP.

IN TERMS
OF BOTH
ECONOMIC
AND MILITARY
POWER, THEY
HAD IMMENSE
IMPACT ON
THEIR OWN
COUNTRY.

AT THIS POINT
THE SEAHORSE
CREW WERE
ESSENTIALLY
STATE SANC-
TIONED PRIVA-
TEERS OF
KONOKUNI.

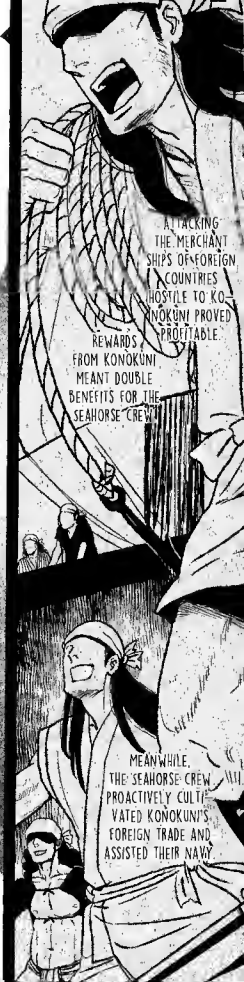


IT WAS
ASSUMED THE
COZY ASSOCIA-
TION WOULD
CONTINUE FAR
INTO THE
FUTURE.

...LORD TSUDA-
GEN'S DAUGHTER,
BLOOD RELATION
TO THE DAIMYO
OF KONOKUNI,
WAS GIVEN TO
SABURO, CAPTAIN
OF THE SEAHORSE
CREW...

...AND SABURO'S
PERSONAL RIGHT-
HAND MAN, WHOM
HE CONSIDERED
HIS OWN BROTHER,
WAS INSTALLED
AS AN INSTRUCTOR
IN THE NAVY.

FURTHER
CEMENTING THE
RELATIONSHIP
WITH KONOKUNI.




ATTACKING
THE MERCHANT
SHIPS OF FOREIGN
COUNTRIES
HOSTILE TO KO-
NOKUNI PROVED
PROFITABLE.
REWARDS
FROM KONOKUNI
MEANT DOUBLE
BENEFITS FOR THE
SEAHORSE CREW.

MEANWHILE,
THE SEAHORSE CREW
PROACTIVELY CULTI-
VATED KONOKUNI'S
FOREIGN TRADE AND
ASSISTED THEIR NAVY.



FINALLY HE
STRUCK A MER-
CHANT CONVOY
FROM OKINOKUNI,
AN ALLY OF KO-
NOKUNI, AND SANK
ALL SHIPS WITH
500 HANDS
ABOARD.



BUT PI-
RATES
WILL
BE PI-
RATES.
SABURO
QUICKLY
GREW
BORED
WITH HIS
LIFE AS A
LAPDOG.



HIS YOUNG
MEN UNEX-
PECTEDLY
STOOD UP
AGAINST THE
CAPTAIN'S
CAPRICIOUS
ATROCITIES
AND WENT
ASHORE.

WITH THEIR
GUIDANCE THE
SEAHORSE
CREW WAS
DEFEATED.

AFTER THAT
THE DAIMYO,
ASHAMED AT
HAVING BEEN
INVOLVED WITH
PIRATES, VOWED
NEVER TO MAKE
THAT MISTAKE
AGAIN.

THAT IS,
HE BEGAN
ONCE AGAIN
TO ATTACK
SHIPS IN-
DISCRIMI-
NATELY





I GUESS
I HAVE
TO WEAR
FANCY
CLOTHES...

ugh

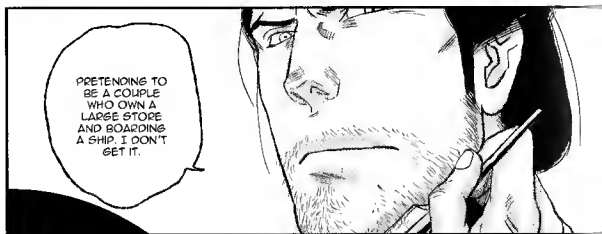
GOODNESS.
DON'T YOU
THINK THIS
SUITS ME
SURPRIS-
INGLY WELL?



I'VE
GONE TO
ALL THIS
TROUBLE
TO PRE-
PARE
A FINE
KIMONO.

SO FIX UP
YOUR TOP-
KNOT AND
WHISKERS
PLEASE.

AND
ASSUME
THE AIR
OF A
WEALTHY
GENTLE-
MAN.



PRETENDING TO
BE A COUPLE
WHO OWN A
LARGE STORE
AND BOARDING
A SHIP. I DON'T
GET IT.



TALKING
BACK
FOR A
CHANGE?

PLAYING
YOUR
CARDS
CLOSE
TO YOUR
CHEST AS
USUAL.

HEY,

WHAT'S
THIS,
WHAT'S
THIS?

WELL,
WHATEVER.
I'LL JUST
FOLLOW
YOUR LEAD.
I DON'T
CARE.



THIS TIME
WE NEED TO
KEEP THE BIG
SWORDS-
MAN'S BACK-
GROUND A
SECRET.

BE AS
MEEK AS
A LAMB
FOR A
LITTLE
WHILE,
DANNA.

BUT
YOU
CAN'T.

I BET
A QUICK
DUST UP
AT A
DOJO
WOULD
HELP
YOU
RELAX.

THIS PRO-
DUCTION
COST ME
A LOT OF
MONEY AND
PREPARA-
TION.



STILL,
DANNA,

I ALWAYS
DEPEND
ON YOU TO
RAISE OUR
FUNDS.

YOU DON'T
EVEN HAVE
TO RISK
YOUR LIFE.
RELAX.



WHEN I GO
BACK TO
BEING ON
MY OWN,
I'LL BE OUT
ON THE
STREETS
AGAIN.



...

...WITH SENSAL'S
IMMORTALITY, WE
CERTAINLY CAN'T
WALK TOGETHER
FOREVER.

I THINK
HE'D LIKE
TO DISTANCE
HIMSELF TO
AVOID PAIN,
BUT...

...STILL
AT LEAST
STAY WITH
ME FOR
NOW.

EVEN.

NO
ODDS?

NO
ODDS!

EVEN.

EVEN
IT IS!

...SOME-
TIMES
HINTS
LIKE THIS
THAT
WE'LL
PART
WAYS.

SENSAL...

AS IF
CON-
FIRM-
ING...

THE
INEVI-
TABLE.



THAT'S
SOME PILE,
MASSEUR-
SAN. DID
YOU COME
OUT TO
GAMBLE
ALONE?

OH
HO.

FINAL
BETS.
NO MORE
ODDS?



GAME!



AND
IT'S...

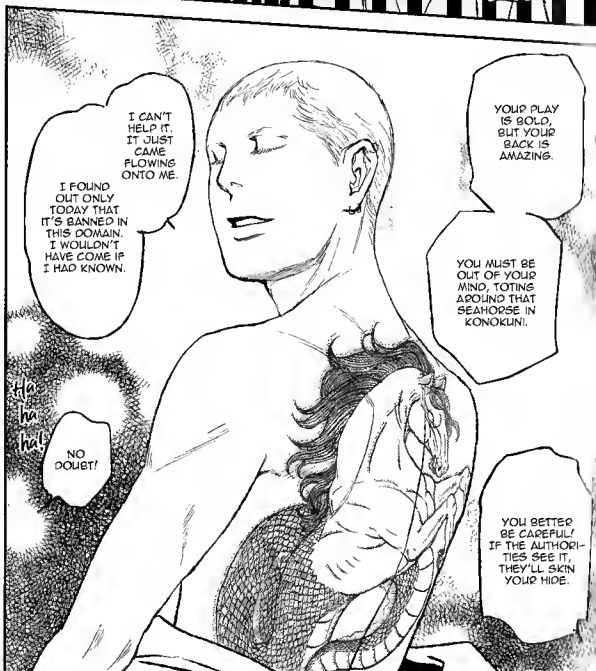
ODD!

...
...
...
ODD.



WHAT
LUCK.

NICE TO BE
YOUNG, HUH,
NIICHAN.



I CAN'T
HELP IT.
IT JUST
CAME
FLOWING
ONTO ME.

I FOUND
OUT ONLY
TODAY THAT
IT'S BANNED IN
THIS DOMAIN.
I WOULDN'T
HAVE COME IF
I HAD KNOWN.

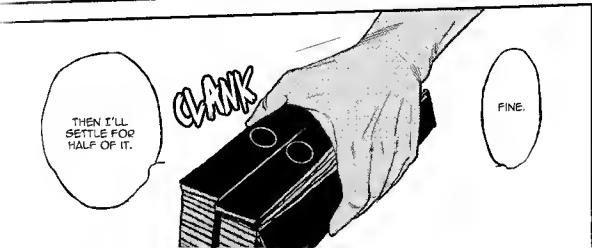
YOUR PLAY
IS BOLD,
BUT YOUR
BACK IS
AMAZING.

YOU MUST BE
OUT OF YOUR
MIND, TOTING
AROUND THAT
SEAHORSE IN
KONOKUNI.

NO
DOUBT!

YOU BETTER
BE CAREFUL!
IF THE AUTHORI-
TIES SEE IT,
THEY'LL SKIN
YOUR HIDE.









FATHER

BUT IN A
BACKWATER
LIKE THIS WE
HARDLY EVER
SEE A BEAUTY
LIKE YOU.

MASTER.

YOU'RE
A FUNNY
KID.

FUCKING
BEEN
AROUND,
HAVEN'T
YOU.



YOU WANT
TO MAKE
SOME
MONEY?
FINE.

COME
ON.



BUT
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU...

OI,
SENSAI.

SORRY
DANNA. GO
ON BACK TO
THE INN.



I'M BACK,
DANNA—

YOU...!
DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT
TIME IT
IS?!

I THOUGHT
YOU MUST
HAVE BOARD-
ED THAT SHIP!
IT WOULD BE
JUST LIKE
YOU!

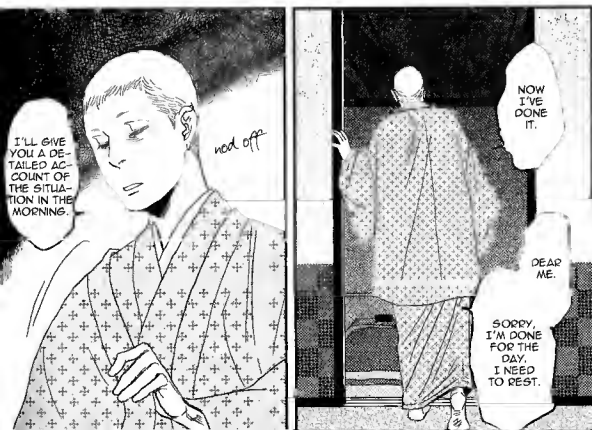


AS
USUAL...



DON'T
WORRY.

IT'S THE
SAME AS
USUAL.







FOR A BODY
THAT FEELS
NOTHING BUT
PAIN, COUPLING
WITH MEN...

...CAN
ONLY BE
TORTURE



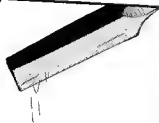
EVEN WHEN
WE FIRST MET,
HE OPENED HIS
BODY TO ME
AS A MATTER
OF COURSE



MAYBE
WISHING FOR
THOSE MOMENTS
IS NOTHING BUT
MY OWN SELF-
CONCEIT.

TO A MAN
WHO'S LIVED
SO MANY
YEARS HE'S
LOST COUNT...

...PERHAPS
EACH DAY HE
SPENDS WITH
ME IS BUT A
MOMENT.



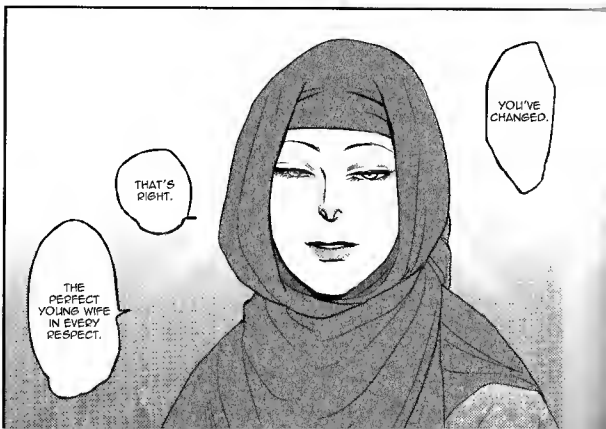


MIND
YOUR OWN
BUSINESS.

WOW! DANNA,
YOU LOOK SO
YOUNG WITHOUT
WHISKERS!



GOING ON
ABOUT THAT
AGAIN-



YOU'VE
CHANGED.

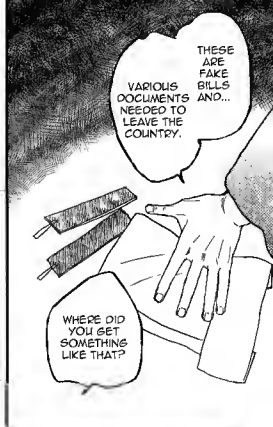
THAT'S
RIGHT.

THE
PERFECT
YOUNG WIFE
IN EVERY
RESPECT.



I'M USED
TO THIS
SORT OF
THING.

MY
EARNINGS
FROM LAST
NIGHT.



THESE
ARE
FAKE
BILLS
AND...
VARIOUS
DOCUMENTS
NEEDED TO
LEAVE THE
COUNTRY.

WHERE DID
YOU GET
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT?

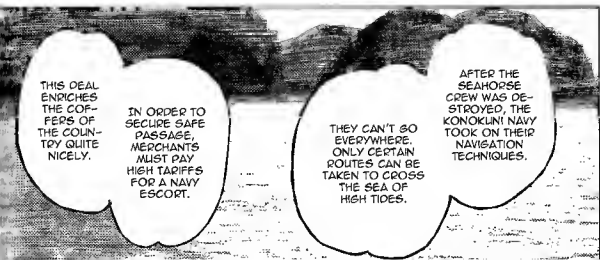


KEEP IN
MIND THAT
HE'S RICH.

SASAYA
IS A MAN
OF FEW
WORDS

WE'RE
THE SASAYA
COUPLE,
WHOLESALE-
ERS FROM
KUSANOKUNI.

SASAYA
HEIHACHIRO
AND HIS
WIFE OSEN.



THIS DEAL
ENRICHES
THE COFF-
ERS OF
THE COUN-
TRY QUITE
NICELY.

IN ORDER TO
SECURE SAFE
PASSAGE,
MERCHANTS
MUST PAY
HIGH TARIFFS
FOR A NAVY
ESCORT.

THEY CAN'T GO
EVERYWHERE.
ONLY CERTAIN
ROUTES CAN BE
TAKEN TO CROSS
THE SEA OF
HIGH TIDES.

AFTER THE
SEAHORSE
CREW WAS DE-
STROYED, THE
KONOKUNI NAVY
TOOK ON THEIR
NAVIGATION
TECHNIQUES.

MERCHANT SHIPS THAT DON'T HIRE THE NAVY ALWAYS ENCOUNTER PIRATES.



WELL,

THAT'S OSTENSIBLY HOW THEY EARN MONEY.

IN REALITY, THERE'S ANOTHER SOURCE OF REVENUE BEHIND KO-NOKUNI.



IT'S NEGOTIATED THROUGH THE NAVY, WHO RECEIVE A SUBSTANTIAL COMMISSION.

EXCEPT FOR THE WEALTHIEST MERCHANTS, WHO ARE LIKELY TO PAY A DECENT RANSOM.

THE PIRATES GENERALLY KILL EVERYONE OR SELL THEM OFF.

THEIR GOODS ARE THOROUGHLY PLUNDERED. IT'S CUTE.



THAT'S THEIR TRICK.

THE KO-NOKUNI NAVY IS MAKING LIKE PIRATES, SNATCHING RANSOMS AND MIDDLEMAN FEES.

I SEE.





ANYONE
WHO SEES IT
BEFORE THEY
BOARD A SHIP
IN THE HARBOR
IS INSPIRED
TO PAY UP TO
THE NAVY.

ARE WE
PAYING
TOO?



NEGLECTING
THEIR DUTIES,
THEY EVEN
CLAIM TO BE
THE REMNANTS
OF THE SEA-
HORSE CREW.

IT'S HARD
TO BELIEVE
JUST HOW
FILTHY THE
KONOKUNI
NAVY IS!

THEY PIN
THE BLAME
FOR ALL THEIR
CRIMES ON THE
LONG-DEAD
SEAHORSE
CREW MEM-
BERS.

THAT BLACK
MONUMENT
IS INDEED A
CONVINCING
SYMBOL OF
TERROR.



NO,
NOT
US!

OUR
TARGET...

IS THE
SEAHORSE
CREW.

FWSSH
FWSSH
...

FWSSH FWSSH FWSSH

FWSSH

FWSSH

AMAZ-
ING.



IT'S NOT
HUMANLY
POSSIBLE
TO CONTROL
A SHIP IN
SEAS LIKE
THESE.



THE SWELL
OF THE TIDE IS
CLEAR EVEN
FROM HERE.



SOME-
ONE'S
COMING.



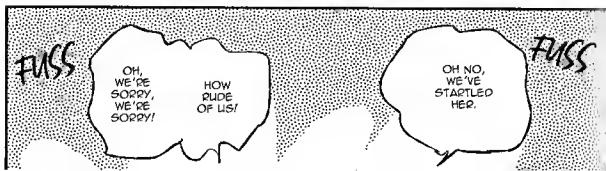
SHH.

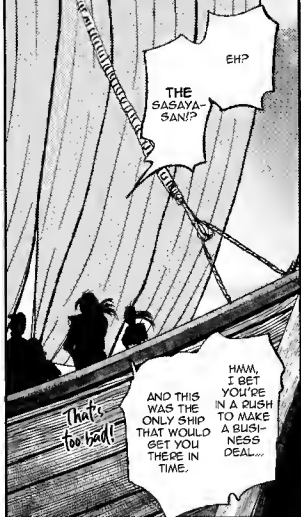


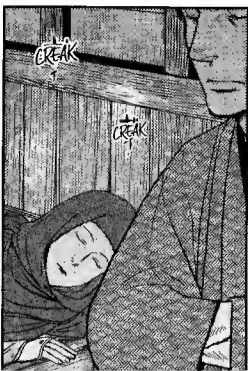
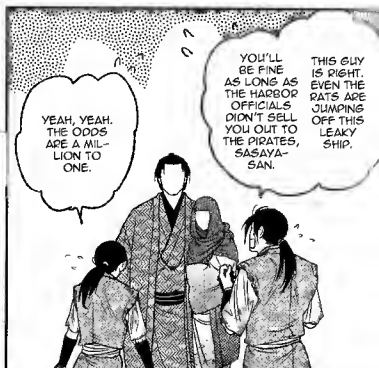
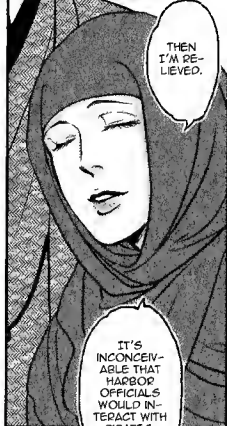
SEE? IT'S
REALLY NICE
OUTSIDE.



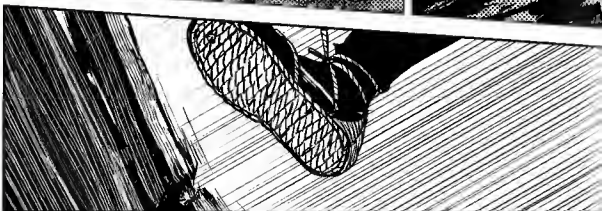
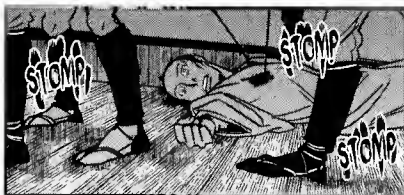
COME
ON UP~

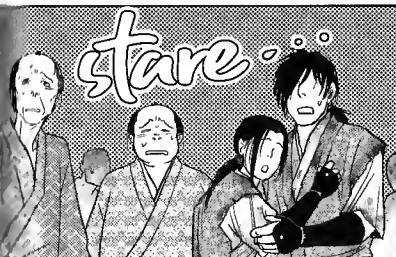












GET
UP
HERE!

EVERYONE
BELOW
OUT
ON DECK
RIGHT NOW!



I
REPEAT,
HURRY
TO THE
DECK!

ESCAPE
IS IMPOS-
SIBLE AND
RESISTANCE
FUTILE!

WE'RE
THE SEA-
HORSE
CREW.

Whaa!



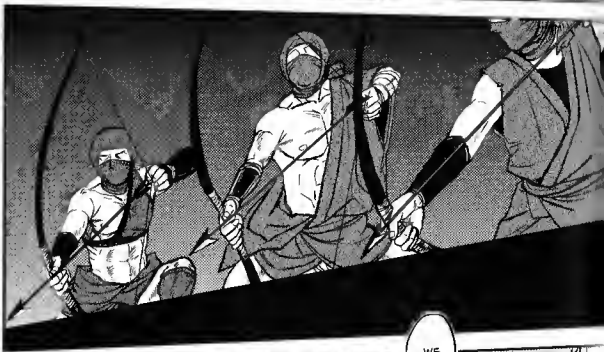
WHOA, WHOA,
WE'RE IN
TROUBLE!

DID YOU
SAY THE
SEAHORSE
CREW?

SEA-

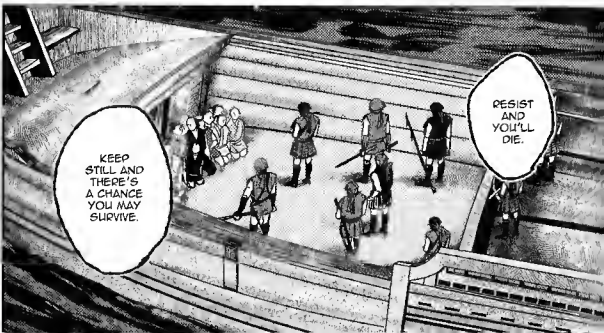
COME
ON,
LET'S
GO!

THE SEA-
HORSE CREW
ON A SHIP
LIKE THIS?
WHY?



...THE
SEA-
HORSE
CREW.

WE
ARE...



KEEP
STILL AND
THERE'S
A CHANCE
YOU MAY
SURVIVE.

RESIST
AND
YOU'LL
DIE.



BUT
ABOVE ALL,
YOU'LL BE
ALIVE.

SURE,
HOWL
AWAY.



HEY
YOU,
BIG
MAN.

SASAYA
HEIHA-
CHIRO.

GET
OVER
HERE.



IF YOU
STAY ALIVE
TO FETCH A
DECENT PRICE
AT LEAST WE
CAN MAKE
A PROFIT.

WELL,
THERE'S NO
MONEY IN
LOOTING A
SHIP AS
SHABBY
AS THIS.

YOU
MUST BE
JOKING!

YOU'RE
GONNA
SELL
US?!



COME ON,
MOVE IT!

yank

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?!

DANNA-
SAMA!



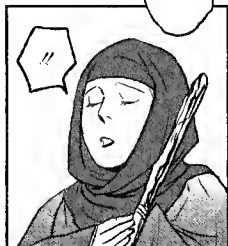
STRIP HIM
AND TIE
HIM UP!

UNSH!

TOSS



AS
FOR
THE
WIFE...



!!



DON'T
WORRY,
SASAYA.
PAY UP AND
YOU'LL BE
A FREE
MAN.

WE CAN
GET FOR
YOUNG
HUSBAND
SASAYA.

I
WONDER
HOW HIGH
A RAN-
SOM...



OH NO!
DANNA-
SAMA!

EVEN
THOUGH
SHE'S
BLIND,
SHE'LL
FETCH
QUITE A
PRICE!

WHAT A
BEAUTI-
FUL
GIRL!

LET'S
GET A
GOOD
LOOK
RIP
OFF
HER
CLOTHES!



HOW CAN
YOU DO
SUCH
THINGS?

YOU'RE
TER-
RIBLE!



HOW?
WE'RE
PIRATES,
THAT'S
HOW!

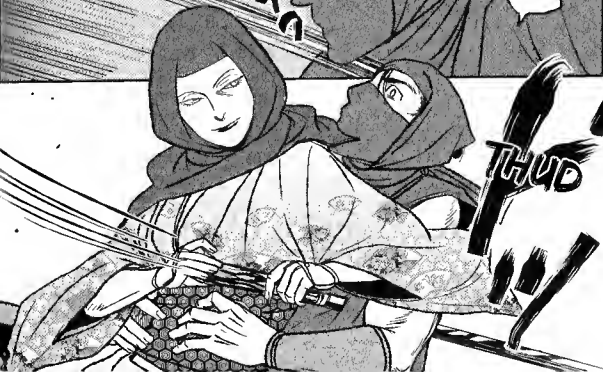
WE'RE THE
SEAHORSE
CREW.

SO
YOU
SAY...



WHOOSH

EHP?



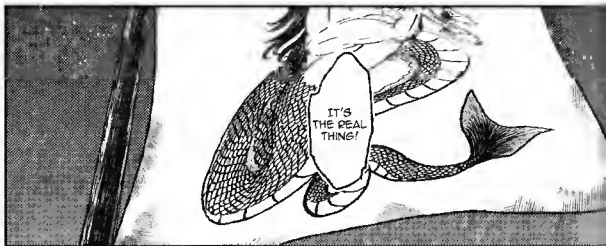
THUD















OF COURSE,
OF COURSE.

YOUR
GOODS WILL
BE RETURNED
TOO. DON'T
WORRY.

WE'LL
STARVE
TO DEATH
WITHOUT
OUR
GOODS.

BUT THE
CARGO...
WHAT
ABOUT
THE
CARGO?

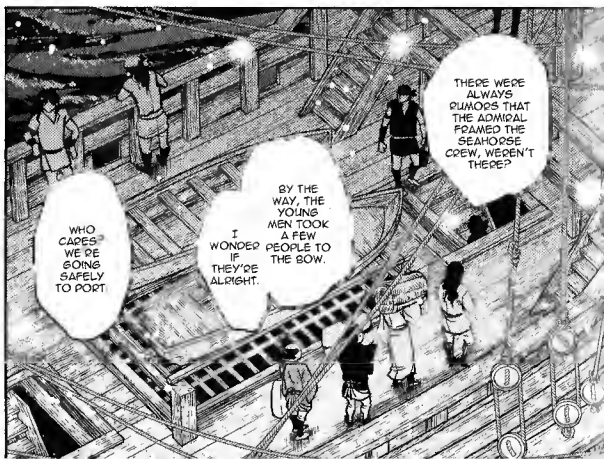
REALLY?
THANKEE!!
THANKEE!!



BUT IT
MAKES
SENSE IF
YOU THINK
ABOUT IT.

YEAH.

I CAN'T BE-
LIEVE THE NAVY
WAS POSING
AS THE SEA-
HORSE CREW
AND PIRATING!



WHO
CARES-
WE'RE
GOING
SAFELY
TO PORT

I
WONDER
IF
THEY'RE
ALRIGHT.

BY THE
WAY, THE
YOUNG
MEN TOOK
A FEW
PEOPLE TO
THE BOW.

THERE WERE
ALWAYS
RUMORS THAT
THE ADMIRAL
FRAMED THE
SEAHORSE
CREW, WEREN'T
THERE?







EH!?

WHO-

...P

SABURO
ANIJA...
TSUBAKI-
SAMA...

FOR
COMING
ALL THIS
WAY IN RE-
SPONSE
TO MY
CALL...

...I AM
GRATE-
FUL.



YOU!?

SAKIRA!?

SMACK



HOW,
SAKIRA...?!

YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO
CALLED
US?

WHAT THE
HELL DO
YOU WANT
WITH US!?
TELL ME!!



RIGHT?
DIDN'T YOU,
SAKIRA!

YOU
SOLD
YOUR
FUCKING
SOUL!

WHY YOU...
YOU BAS-
TARD...!!



BY NO MEANS
COULD I ALLOW
YOU TO TAKE BACK
YOUR RIGHTFUL
POSITION FROM
THE NAVY BY
YOURSELVES.

BE-
SIDES...

YEAH, I
SOLD IT.





...THE BEST
SHIP AND
A CREW OF
HANDPICKED
SAILORS.

THEY
SHOULD
SERVE YOUR
PURPOSE.

IT TOOK
FIFTEEN
YEARS TO
GATHER....

I HOPE
YOU'LL
USE THEM,
SABURO-
ANIJA.



I SEE.



AND
NEVER,
I MEAN
NEVER,
CALL ME
ANIJA.

LEAVE US
ALONE!
I CAN'T
STAND THE
SIGHT OF
YOU!

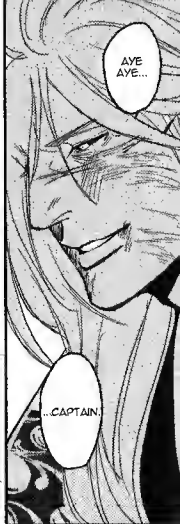
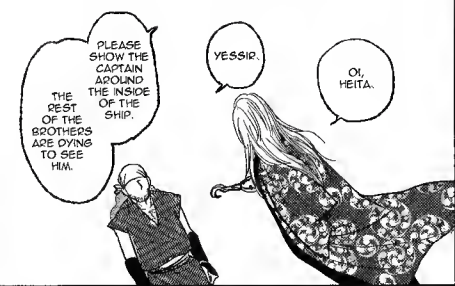


AFTER ALL,
WE STILL
HAVE THE
BODIES
OF KIDS...

SURE,
THANKS
A LOT!

THANKS TO THE
NAME.

BUT WE
DON'T NEED
A LOWLIFE
LIKE YOU,
SAKIRA!





SEEING
THAT KIND
OF MIRACLE,
I HAVE NO
COMPLAINTS.

THE
BRAWN
YOUR GUYS
BRING IS
JUST WHAT
WE NEED
RIGHT NOW.

THE SHIP
STARTED
MOVING LIKE
A DAMN
ROLLING
TOY.

JUST BY
ISSUING
A FEW
COMMANDS
WHEN YOU
CAME
ABOARD...



IF
SAKIRA-
DONO
CALLS
YOU CAP-
TAIN,
CAP-
TAIN
IT IS.

I DON'T
REALLY
UNDER-
STAND THE
WORKINGS
OF YOUR
BODY,
BUT...

...YOU'VE
ALREADY
DEMON-
STRATED
YOU'RE
NO 14- OR
15-YEAR
OLD KID.



PFFT!

YEAH, AP-
PARENTLY
THEY DRINK
AS MUCH
AS EVER.

OH, AND
ALCOHOL
STANDS
NO CHANCE
AGAINST
THEM,
EITHER!



THAT'S
A SERI-
OUSLY
FIERCE
GLARE



SHUT
UP.

EVEN SO,
IN 15 YEARS
YOUR LOOKS
HAVE IMPROVED
CONSIDERABLY.

IT'S AWK-
WARD, KNOW-
ING YOU'RE
THE PERSON
I'VE MADE A
CONTRACT
WITH.

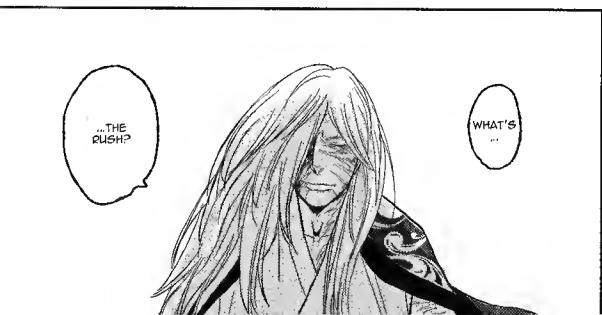
SORRY
YOU FIND
ME IN THIS
UNSIGHTLY
STATE

YOU CAN
SAY THAT
AGAIN



THAT'S
WHY WE'RE
ALL HERE,
RIGHT?

SO?
READY?



...THE
RUSH?

WHAT'S

THOSE WHO HAD SUFFERED
LOSSES THROUGH PIRACY
IN THE PAST HAD ALREADY
TIPPED OFF THE DAIMYO AS
TO HOW YAMATO HAD OB-
TAINED ALL HIS PROFITS.

NO MATTER HOW HE
GLOSSED IT OVER, ONCE
THOSE CORPSES REACHED THE
HARBOR, THE GAME WAS UP.

THE SINGLE PATH LEFT
TO HIM WAS TO LAY
BLAME ON THE SEAHORSE
CREW, JUST AS HE HAD
DONE 15 YEARS BEFORE.

THEN, THOSE WHO WERE
PRESENT TODAY WOULD
SPREAD WORD OF THE
NAVY'S DEEDS THROUGHOUT
THE DOMAIN.

MAYBE ADMIRAL
YAMATO COULD RUSH
TO SMOOTH IT
OVER, BUT

IT WOULD TAKE
SEVERAL DAYS FOR
THE SHABBY SHIP TO
RETURN TO THE PORT
THEY SAILED FROM.

WE CAN
RELAX
UNTIL
THEN.

THE NAVY
WILL MOBI-
LIZE TO
SUEDE
US.

IT'S TIME WE
CELEBRATE
OUR REUNION
WITH A DRINK-
ING BOUT,
BROTHERS.

LET'S
FORGET WE
HAVE THE
BODIES OF
KIDS AND
DRINK OUR-
SELVES TO
DEATH.

WE DEFIN-
ITELY WON'T BE
ABLE TO
MOVE FOR
TWO OR
THREE
DAYS.



WELL,

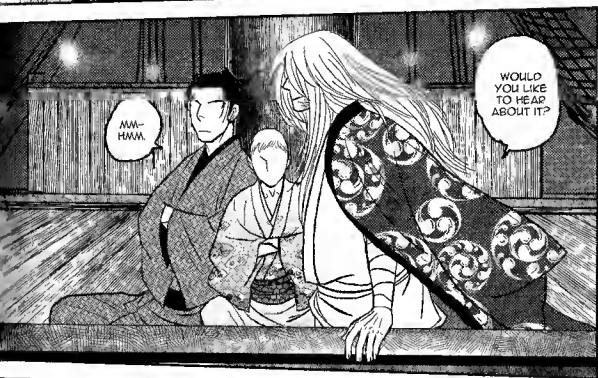
...I
CAN'T
BEAR
IT.

I
CALLED
THEM
BACK TO
THIS
WORLD ON MY OWN...
AFTER
KILLING
THEM
ALL.



ONE
QUES-
TION...

WHY
AREN'T
YOU
PARTICI-
PATING?



MM-
HAM.

WOULD
YOU LIKE
TO HEAR
ABOUT IT?



IF YOU
WOULDN'T
MIND.

I'M CU-
RIOUS.



NOT AT
ALL, WHY
WOULD
I?

ANYWAY,
THERE'S
NOTHING
ELSE TO
DO.

WHILE
THEY DRINK,
I'LL TALK
UNTIL WE GET
SLEEPY.



ABOUT
THE LIFE
OF A TER-
RIBLE
MAN.



WE
MADE
IT!!

WE'RE
PULLING
AWAY
FROM
THEM!

AWE-
SOME!

Yay!

WE'RE...

FREE!!

FREE!!

WHEN I
WAS THIRTEEN
AND ANIJA
SEVENTEEN...

WE STOLE
A SHIP AND
ITS CARGO
AND FLED...

FROM THE
SHIP OWNERS
OUR FATHERS
HAD SERVED.

SERVES
THEM
RIGHT!

NEITHER WE
NOR OUR PAR-
ENTS KNOW THE
REASON OUR
ANCESTORS
ABANDONED
LAND, BUT...

WHY DO
YOU THINK
THE SHIP
OWNERS
WOULD TELL
US SOME-
THING LIKE
THAT?

LABORERS IN
NAME! ONLY WE
WERE SEAFARING
FOLK CHASED
FROM THE LAND.

GROUNDLESSLY TOLD
WE HAD CRIMINAL
BLOOD, WE SUFFERED
DISCRIMINATION AND
WERE FORCED TO
WORK LIKE SLAVES.

SOMEDAY
WE'LL RISE
UP IN THE
WORLD AND
GET THE RECOGNITION WE DESERVE!

WE'RE THE
CHOSEN
ONES, FREE
TO RIDE THE
WAVES LIKE
SEAHORSES!

CHIN UP,
BROTHERS!

BE-
CAUSE
THEY'RE
AFRAID!

BECAUSE
WE'RE THE
TRUE MAS-
TERS OF
THE SEA!



HOW
WILL HE
RECOVER
FROM HIS
INJURIES
IF HE
DOESN'T
SLEEP?

DON'T
BE RI-
DICU-
LOUS!

CALL A
DOCTOR!
PLEASE
CALL A
DOCTOR!

I WAS INJURED
SO BADLY I
COULDN'T MOVE,
BUT THE SHIP-
OWNER, FAR
FROM BLAMING
THE SAILORS,
ACCUSED ME.

THERE WERE FEW
BROTHELS IN THE PORT
TOWN WHERE WE MADE
CALL ONE NIGHT, SO
THE SAILORS RETURNED
TO THE SHIP DEPRIVED
OF WOMEN.

STILL
SLEEPING,
HUHP?

YOU
SURE
HAVE IT
NICE

I WAS ON
NIGHT WATCH,
AND THEY
SEIZED ME
INSTEAD.

DOCTOR!?

IF WE CAN'T
USE HIM,
WE'LL TAKE
ON A NEW
GUY.

DO YOU CALL
A DOCTOR
WHEN LIVE-
STOCK TEARS
THE HOLE IN
ITS ASS?

WHAT-
EVER.

WE CAN
GET AS
MANY SUB-
STITUTES
AS WE
WANT.

IT
ENDS
HERE.

I'M DOING
IT! HOW
ABOUT IT,
EVERYONE?
WITH ME?

IF WE'RE
GOING TO
STEAL A
SHIP, THIS
IS OUR
CHANCE.

THEY'LL
ALL DIS-
EMBARK
DURING
THE PRO-
CESS.

THE SAIL-
ORS ARE
SUPPOSED
TO BE RE-
LIEVED IN
KONOKUNI
HARBOR.

I'M IN
TOO!

OBSOULES!
I'M WITH
YOU!

WE'RE
FINALLY
DOING IT,
ANIKU?

IF WE GET
THAT FAR
NOBODY CAN
CATCH US

LOOK,
BROTHERS.
WE'LL HEAD
SOUTH OUT OF
THE HARBOR
TOWARD MISATO
AND INTO THE
SEA OF HIGH
TIDES.

I
DON'T
INTEND TO
BE CAP-
TURED.

THAN LIVE
MY LIFE IN
SERVITUDE.

I'D
RATHER
BE CAP-
TURED
OR
KILLED...

THAT'S
RIGHT!



THE
SEA
IS ON
OUR
SIDE!

AND SO FOR THE
FIRST TIME WE
OBTAINED A LIFE
IN WHICH WE
WEREN'T RULED
BY OTHERS



THE SEA OF
HIGH TIDES
WILL BE OUR
BASE FOR
MAKING
MONEY HAND
OVER FIST

THIS IS
JUST THE
BEGIN-
NING.

YOU
DID IT,
SABURO
ANIJA.

THEY'LL FIND
OUT WHO'S
SUPERIOR.

WE'LL STRIP
THEM BARE,
THE BAS-
TARDS WHO
CALL US
LIVESTOCK!

WE'LL TAKE
BACK WHAT
THEY'VE
STOLEN
FROM US.

WE NEVER
STOPPED
LAUGHING.

USING THIS
AS CAPITAL,
WE FURTHER
INCREASED
OUR RICHES.

STEALING CARGO
FROM MERCHANT
SHIPS ONE AFTER
ANOTHER, WE
AMASSED A FORTUNE.

WE KEPT
BUSY FROM
THAT DAY ON.

YOU'LL
DEFINITELY
GROW
STRONG.

IT CAN BE SAID
THAT OUR SUCCESS
WAS BASED ON
ANIIJA'S CAPACITY TO
IDENTIFY AND MAKE
THE MOST OUT OF THE
ABILITIES OF OTHERS.

ME,
IN THE
RAIDING
CREW?

I'LL GROW
STRONG

ALRIGHT...
IF YOU SAY
SO, ANIIJA.

PI-
RATES!

THEY'RE
ATTACK-
ING THE
NAVY!

LET'S
GO,
ANJO!

ANOTHER
FUN DAY
MAKING
MONEY!

NO,
DON'T
PUT UP
A FIGHT!

LOOK
AT THEIR
BANNER!!

THAT'S

...SAKIRA, RAID
COMMANDER
OF THE SEA-
HORSE CREW!





HOW
DID YOU
FARE

HA
HA
HA!

NO GOOD!
EVERYONE
AND
E-
CAPED!
ABAN-
DONED
SHIP...

CAPTAIN
SAKIRA'S
SQUAD IS
BACK!!



AS ANIJA HAD DE-
CLARED, THE NAME
OF THE SEAHORSE
CREW WAS KNOWN
EAR AND WIDE FOR
DOMINATING THE
SEA OF HIGH TIDES.

I TURNED 25 FEARED
AS CAPTAIN SABURO
RIGHT-HAND MAN
"SLASHER SAKIRA"

THE FOUNDING
YEAR WE FORMED
AN ALLIANCE
WITH KONOKUNI.



THE DAIMYO'S
WISHES ASIDE,
ANIJA HAD A
HUNCH THE NAVY
WAS UNTRUST-
WORTHY AND TOOK
PRECAUTIONS.

THE HUMILIATION WAS
DIFFICULT TO BEAR
FOR NAVY ADMIRAL
YAMATO ZAEMON. HIS
GLARE WAS STONY.



ANIJA WOULD
COMPLY WITH
NO ORDERS
THAT DIDN'T
HAVE MY
SIGNATURE.

I WAS PUT ASHORE
AS A NAVY IN-
STRUCTOR TO KEEP
TABS ON MILI-
TARY ACTIVITY.

山馬克
佐藤



YOUR YOUTH AND APPEARANCE WILL PUT THAT NAVY BLINCH OFF GUARD.

IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU TOOK ON PUBLIC DUTIES.

MAYBE ONE OF THE OTHER BROTHERS-

I WONDER IF I CAN HANDLE SUCH AN IMPORTANT MISSION.



MAYBE YOU CAN TRY TO WIN HIM OVER SOMEHOW.

YAMATO AND HIS CLAN LOST FACE MAKING THIS ALLIANCE.



YOU CAN LEAVE INTELLIGENCE TO THEM.

DON'T WORRY, SAKURO AND FUTABA WILL BE ASHORE TOO. THEY'LL SUPPORT YOU.

THAT ISN'T OUT OF THE QUESTION, IS IT?

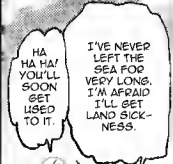


I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, ANOJA...

I CAN TRY.







I WAS TREATED
LIKE A HERO
OR A GOD OF
FORTUNE.

SA-
KIRA-
SAMA!

THE TOWN
OF PROSPERED,
AND NOBODY
CALLED US
PIRATES
ANYMORE.

THANKS TO
THE SEAHORSE
CREW'S PROTEC-
TION, SAULORS
HAD NO FEAR
GOING TO SEA.

I DIDN'T
HAVE TIME
TO MISS
THE SEA.

LIFE ON
LAND WAS
JUST AS
ANJA
SAID.



WHY,
THANK
YOU.

HOT
FROM
THE
OVEN!

PLEASE
HAVE
THEM.



PLEASE
EXCUSE ME,
I'D LIKE TO
ASK ABOUT
TOMORROW'S
EXERCISES.

SA-
KIRA-
DONO!

YOSA-
BURO.

THE
SHIELD
PROVIDED
BY THE
ALLIANCE
WAS WORTH
BEING OVER-
WORKED.

THE HUGE
PROFITS WE
RAISED WITHIN
A FEW YEARS
WON THE
DAIMYO'S
TRUST.

BY THE WAY,
HAVEN'T I
ASKED YOU
NOT USE
"DONO?"

SORRY,
I HAVE
SOME
THINGS
TO DO.

まじゅう

EH?

JUST
SKIP
'EM.

UH, TO-
MOR-
ROW?

PLEASE
ACCEPT
THE CUS-
TOMARY
PRACTICE!

...NOT TO USE
HONORIFICS,
PROFESSOR
SAKIRA-DONO.

WELL...
EVEN IF
YOU DID
MAKE THE
REQUEST..



...IS AN EARNEST AND
TRUSTWORTHY MAN;
BUT SOMEWHAT
RESEMBLES ANIJA.

...NAGURA
YOSABURO...

THIS SAMURAI WHO
WAS RECENTLY
ASSIGNED TO
WORK FOR ME...

PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME!

WHAT
A PAIN.

IT'S NOT
LIKE I'M
A SAMU-
RAI, YOU
KNOW.

SO
YOU
HAVE
THINGS
TO DO.
YOUR
REGULAR
SECRET
RENDEZ-
VOUS?

HMPH!





I'D LIKE
TO SEE
FOR MY-
SELF...

NO WAY,
NOT A
CHANCE,
WHY, WHAT
FOR?



MAY I
COME
WITH
YOU?



DON'T
CALL IT
A SECRET
RENDEZVOUS,
THAT'S AN
EXAGGERA-
TION!

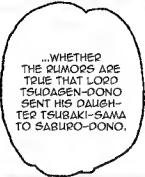
IT'S TRUE,
I'M GOING
TO SEE
SABURO
ANIJA.

LIKE
I DO
EVERY
MONTH.



TSUBAKI-SAMA
BEING A NIECE
OF DAIMYO
TSUNATOYO-
SAMA,

WOULD MAKE
SABURO-
DONO THE
DAIMYO'S KIN.

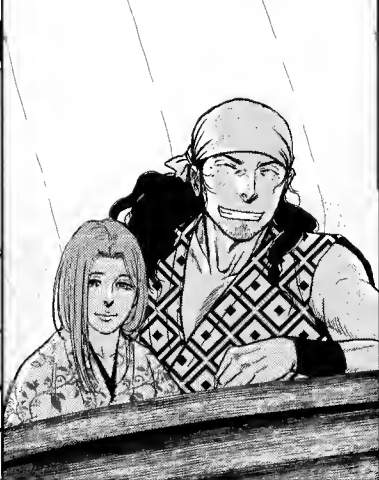


...WHETHER
THE RUMORS ARE
TRUE THAT LORO
TSUDAGEN-DONO
SENT HIS DAUGHT-
ER TSUBAKI-SAMA
TO SABURO-DONO.



I DON'T
GET IT.



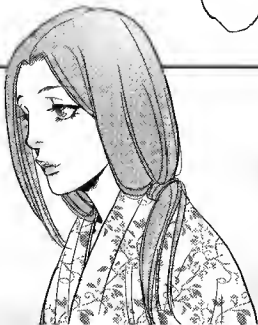


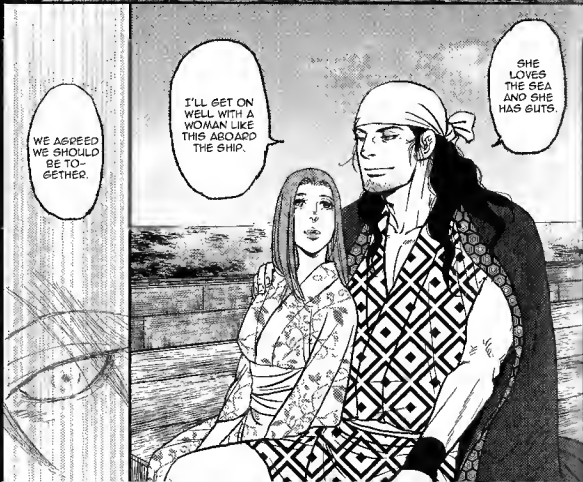
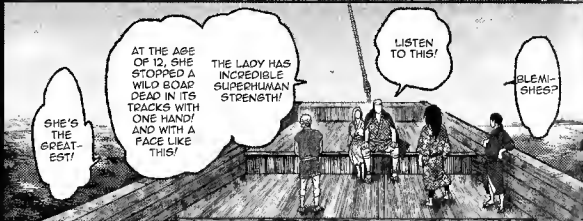
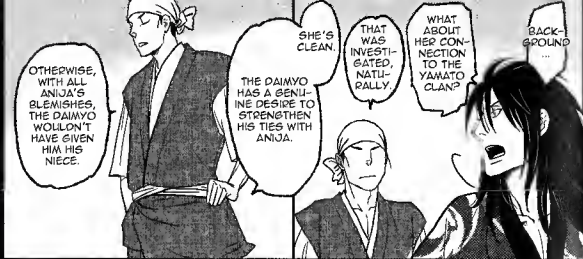
...THERE WAS A
LOT TO THINK
ABOUT BEFORE
MAKING THE
RIGHT DECISION.

LIKE IF
TSUBAKI
HERSELF
COULD
COME TO
CARE FOR
ME.

I DIDN'T
MEAN TO
HIDE IT,
BUT...

AND I
NEEDED TO
LOOK INTO
HER BACK-
GROUNDS.





AFTER
THAT...



...I DON'T RE-
MEMBER WHAT
ANISA AND I
TALKED ABOUT.

CREAK

CREAK

I WAS SWAY-
ING ON THE
BOAT BACK
TO SHORE.

THE NEXT
THING I
KNEW...





ME...?

...DIDN'T
RECOGNIZE
YOUR OWN
FEELINGS,
DID YOU.



...



SAKIRA,
YOU...



ANIJA
TOOP

DID EV-
ERYONE
KNOW?



I DIS-
GUSTED
HIM THAT
MUCH?



THAT'S
WHY HE
PUT ME
ASHORE?

SO
THAT'S
WHY?



BUT IF HE PUT
YOU ASHORE,
YOU COULD
CONTINUE THE
SAME WORK.

IT BOTH-
ERED HIM,
SAKIRA.

COME
ON,
THAT
MUCH
YOU
COULD
GUESS.



RIGHT,
RIGHT.

YOU
MUST
UNDER-
STAND
THAT?

YOU'RE IM-
PORTANT,
SO HE SENT
YOU AWAY
TO DO VERY
SERIOUS
WORK.

...OF WHAT
MY BROTHERS
WERE SAYING.

I DIDN'T
HEAR
HALF...

...MY GOAL
WAS TO PROVE
MYSELF WORTHY
OF ANIJA'S
TRUST.

TOSS



DURING
THOSE TWO
YEARS...
NO MATTER
HOW DIFFI-
CULT THEY
HAD BEEN TO
FACE ALONE...



...BROKE
MY HEART.

WHAT'S
HAPPENED?

SAKIRA-
DONO!!

IT'S
NOTHING
SHUT UP
AND GET
OUT

THOSE
CLOTHES
...

ARE
YOU
ILL!?

YOSA-
?

SA-
KIRA-
DONO!

gasp





MAY
...
SAKIRA-
DONO...



AND
YOU CAN
DO ME.

BUY ME
SOME
LIQUOR
AFTER-
WARDS,
YOSA-
BURO.



FROM THERE
THINGS PRO-
CEEDED IN THE
USUAL MANNER.

DROWNING
IN LIQUOR...



INDULGING
IN LUST...



IT WAS
GOOD FOR
NOTHING...

IN NO
TIME AT
ALL...



WHAT IF
SABURO
SEES YOU
IN THIS
STATE?

YOU'RE
DRUNK
AGAIN!

ENOUGH
IS ENOUGH!

SAKIRA!



NOT
REALLY.

NOT
FROM
A DROP
OR TWO.

I'M NOT
DRUNK.





WE CAN'T
HAVE HIM
SIGNING
ORDERS IN
THAT CON-
DITION.

WE'LL ASK
SABURO TO
ARRANGE FOR
SAKIRA TO
RETURN TO
THE SHIP.

YEAH, WE
HAVE NO
OTHER
CHOICE.



O!!
WHAT ABOUT
NEXT WEEK'S
MEETING? YOU
BETTER NOT
SHOW UP LIKE
THIS AGAIN!

FORGET IT,
FUTABA.
SAKIRA'S
A LOST
CAUSE.

...BACK
TO SEA?



SAKIRA...

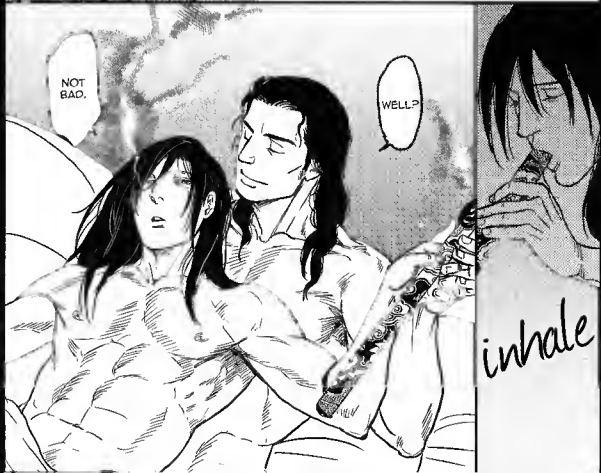
MY
PLAN
WOULD
FALL
APART

CREAK

THAT
WON'T
DO.



YOU
...!?
BASTARD
...!







ON THE REPORT OF
TSUBAKI-SAMA'S
PREGNANCY,
THE DAIMYO
PRESENTED
SABURO-DONO
WITH A NAVAL
TERRITORY.

INSTEAD
OF A MERE
SAILOR,
HE'LL BE
A RULER.

SO...
HE'LL BE
A LORD?

AT THE
BEGINNING
OF NEXT
MONTH HE'S
GOING
ASHORE
WITH
TSUBAKI.

IT SEEMS
THE FORMAL
ARRANGE-
MENTS HAVE
ALREADY
BEGUN.

HA HA,
THAT'S
AWESOME!
ANIJA
REALLY IS
SUPERIOR
TO THE
LANDLUB-
BERS.

AWESOME.

HUH...?

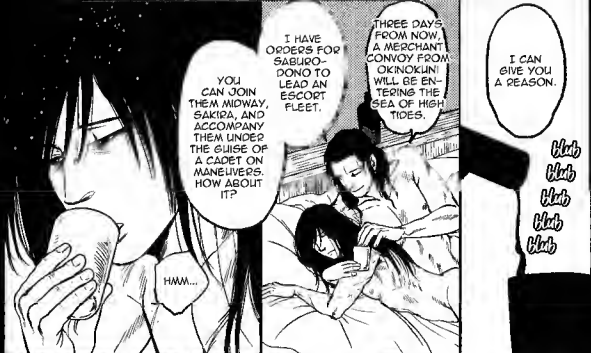
ANI-
JA...
A
RULER?

THEN HE'LL
RANK HIGHER
THAN YAMATO.
WON'T HE?

I HAVE
NO REASON
TO RETURN
TO ANIJA'S
SHIP,
THOUGH...

MM,
SO
YOU'VE
SAID.

AS YOU
KNOW,
LORDS
CANNOT
LEAVE THE
DOMAIN.
SABURO-
DONO WILL
SOON BE DIS-
EMBARCKING
FROM HIS SHIP
FOR GOOD,
SAKIRA.



YOU
CAN JOIN
THEM MIDWAY,
SAKIRA, AND
ACCOMPANY
THEM UNDER
THE GUISE OF
A CADET ON
MANEUVERS.
HOW ABOUT
IT?

I HAVE
ORDERS FOR
SABURO-
DONO TO
LEAD AN
ESCORT
FLEET.

THREE DAYS
FROM NOW,
A MERCHANT
CONVOY FROM
OKINOKUNI
WILL BE EN-
TERING THE
SEA OF HIGH
TIDES.

I CAN
GIVE YOU
A REASON.

Club
Club
Club
Club
Club

HMM...



..THIS IS PROBABLY THE LAST
CHANCE FOR THE
TWO OF YOU TO
STAND SHOULDER
TO SHOULDER ON
THE SHIP'S DECK.

IT'S A TWO-
DAY VOYAGE
THAT WON'T
BE VERY IN-
TERESTING,
BUT...



SIGN
RIGHT
HERE.

DIZZY

LAST...

UGH
...

I SHOULDN'T
HAVE GONE
THERE AND
SULKED.
NOW I CAN
SEE HIM PROPERLY, GOOD.

I'M
SUCH
AN
IDIOT.

CHUG!





THREE DAYS FROM NOW,
SAKIRA, YOU
CAN LOOK
FORWARD
TO IT.

WHAT
DID I DO
JUST
NOW...?

HUH?

000

ahh

SOME
KIND OF
ORDERS
FOR
ANIJA.

WHAT
DID I
SIGN?

000

LOOK
FOR-
WARD?
WHAT'S
HE
TALKING
ABOUT?

WHAT..

WHAT
WERE
THEY?

I CAN'T
REMEM-
BER.
WHAT
HAVE I
DONE TO
ANIJA?

AUGH



ANICA...

IT WAS AN
EXCUSE.

THE POINT
WAS I WAS
DRUGGED OUT
OF MY MIND.

EVEN IF I HAD
I WOULDN'T HAVE
OBEYED THOSE ORDERS
WITHOUT KNOWING
WHAT THEY CON-
TAINED. IT WAS UN-
LIKELY TO RESULT IN
BEING KILLED.
FOR EXAMPLE.

AND I WOULD
WAKE UP.

ON THE
FOURTH DAY
I FINALLY
REGAINED
CONSCIOUS-
NESS.

BECAUSE OF
THE DRUGS,
I SLEPT FOR
THREE DAYS
STRAIGHT.

BY
THEN...

...IT
WAS
ALL
OVER.





FUTA-
BA!



SAKU-
RO!



SABURO-
ANIJA!



I MUST
THANK
YOU,
SAKIRA.



YES,
WHAT A
SUPERB
VIEW.
A SIGHT
I'VE SEEN
IN MY
DREAMS.



KUH...

YOSA-
BURO!
WHAT
ARE
YOU...

YAMATO
ZAEMON-
SAMA,
YOU
MEAN?



YAMATO!
YOU
BASTARD



IT'S
THANKS
TO THE IN-
FORMATION
FROM KANOJI.

THEY SAY
A MAN'S
JEALOUSY
IS NO MATCH
FOR A
WOMAN'S,
BUT...
YAH HA...

WELL
DONE,
YOSA-
BURO.

YAAH
HEH HEH
HEH



WOMEN
DIDN'T
WORK

MONEY
DIDN'T
WORK

IT TOOK
A LOT OF
TROUBLE
TO BREAK
THE BONDS
OF THE
SEAHORSE
CREW



THIS IS NO
MAN, HE'S
A USELESS
BASTARD.

I KNEW IT
FROM THE
MOMENT I
SAW HIM.



I DIDN'T
THINK YOU
BASTARDS
WOULD
EVER
CRUMBLE



I SEE
HE WAS
SABURO'S
PARTNER

SPILLING
HIS GUTS,
THE EXPRES-
SION ON HIS
FACE JUST
LIKE A GIRL.

ALL HE
TALKED
ABOUT WAS
SABURO...
HEH HEH...



KEEP SPREAD-
ING WORD OF
THE SEAHORSE
CREW'S ATROC-
ITIES TO YOUR
FOLLOWERS.

AS I PROM-
ISED, I'LL
GIVE YOU THE
RIGHTS TO
THE LOCAL
GAMBLING.



NOT
LIES,
ALL
TRUE.

THEY
BOARDED
THE CONVOY
AT THE DI-
RECTION OF
THE ORDERS
SIGNED BY
YOU.

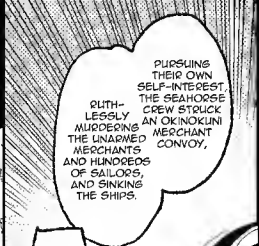
ALTHOUGH
ONE OF
SABURO'S
MEN
CAUGHT
ON.

HE IMMEDI-
ATELY TRIED
TO MAKE THEM
PULL BACK,
SO WE
STEPPED
IN.



THAT'S ODD...
THEY'RE JUST
MERCHANTS.

ACCORDING
TO SAKIRA'S
LETTER,
THEY'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE THE
SMUGGLING
FLEET OF
STRANGE. AN ENEMY
DOMAIN.



PURSUING
THEIR OWN
SELF-INTEREST,
THE SEAHORSE
CREW STRUCK
AN OKINOKUNI
MERCHANT
CONVOY,
RUTH-
LESSLY
MURDERING
THE UNARMED
MERCHANTS
AND HUNDREDS
OF SAILORS,
AND SINKING
THE SHIPS.

LIES!

LIES!
UTTER
NON-
SENSE!!



WE'RE SUR-
ROUNDED!

CAPTAIN!
OUR SHIP!

CAPTAIN!
IT'S THE
NAVY!



CARRYING
THE CHILD
OF AN IN-
FERIOR
RACE.

YEAH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

IT CER-
TAINLY IS A
PITY ABOUT
TSUBAKI-
SAMA.



NO
MERCY!?

YOU
BAS
TARDS

DO YOU
HAVE NO
HEARTS!?



YOU'VE
RENDERED
SUCH DIS-
TINGUISHED
SERVICE.

BY RIGHTS,
WE SHOULD BE
COMPLETELY
ERADICATING
THE SEAHORSE
CREW, BUT...

OF
COURSE
WE DO!



TO SHOW
OUR MERCY,
WE'RE LET-
TING YOU
GO.

YANK

I HOPE
YOU AP-
PRECIATE
THIS.



YOU
SANK
EVERY
SHIP?

TSU-
BAKI-
SAMA
WAS
ABOARD
TOO!

YOU
DEMONS!
SHE WAS
EXPECTING
A CHILD!



!?

HOW-
EVER...

...NOT
BEFORE
CUTTING
OFF YOUR
RIGHT ARM,
SAKIRA.

NOO!

YOU
CAN'T
MEAN
IT.

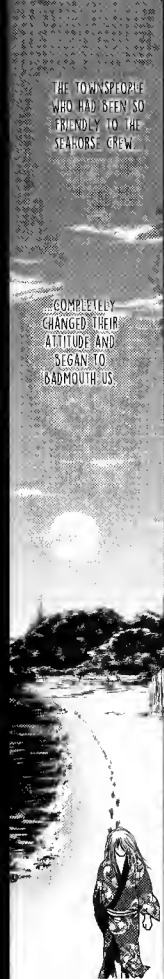
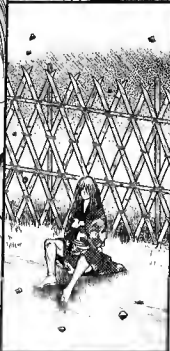
THE TOWNSPEOPLE
WHO HAD BEEN SO
FRIENDLY TO THE
SEAHORSE CREW.

...COMPLETELY
CHANGED THEIR
ATTITUDE AND
SEGAN TO
BADMOUTH US.

AFTER THE
BODIES OF
MY BROTHERS
WERE PUT ON
DISPLAY FOR
SEVERAL DAYS.

THEY WERE
PERMITTED
TO RETURN TO
THE SEA AND
THE EARTH.

THEY WERE
BURNED TO
ASH AND
SCATTERED
TO THE
WINDS.





VERY
WELL.

DE-
MON...

IF
YOU'RE
THERE...

I'LL
BUY
YOUR
SOUL.

AND IF
YOU'LL DEAL
WITH THE
LOWEST OF
THE LOW,
LIKE ME...

LONG AGO
ANJIA HAD
TOLD ME
OF A SEA
DEMON...

DRIVEN
FROM THE
HARBOR...

...THAT COULD
GRANT ANY
WISH.

RAMBLING
ALONG THE
BEACH...

THERE
WAS
SOME-
THING I
COULDN'T
STOP
THINKING
ABOUT

BUT
THE
PRICE
WAS...



...SOUNDS COMPLICATED.

ADVANCING REINCAR-NATION...



IF YOU SAY SO.

ADVANCING REINCAR-NATION IS EASIER THAN DEFYING THE ORDER OF THE CYCLE OF BIRTH, DEATH AND REBIRTH THROUGH RE-SUSCITATION.



NO DOUBT IT WAS A SOUND SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.

THAT'S HOW HE GOT US ALL HERE AT ONCE.



YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THE CRUCIAL FACTOR?

IT'S MORE TO DO WITH YOU.



THEY'RE ALL SAFE, EVERY ONE OF THEM.
BRAVO, SENSAI-DOMO!



YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT.

THE REINCAR-NATION OF MY BROTHERS WAS ADVANCED TO THE CURRENT AGE...

...SO THAT EVERYONE COULD RETALIATE AGAINST YAMATO'S NAVY WITH THEIR OWN HANDS.



BUT LET
ME STAY
JUST A
LITTLE
LONGER.

I'LL BE
SURE TO
INFORM
YOU WHEN
"IT'S TIME."



...

I
KNOW.



YOU
CAN'T
SEE IT
OUT, YOU
KNOW.

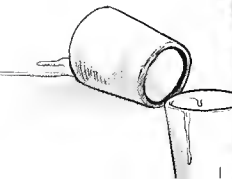
YOU
DON'T
HAVE
MUCH
TIME.



MAKE
SURE YOU
HAVE NO
REGRETS.

THE MERCHANTS
INVOLVED IN THE
PHONY PIRATE INCI-
DENT WERE DELIVERED
SAFELY TO SHORE.

BY THE END
OF THE DAY,
RUMORS OF THE
SEAHORSE CREW
HAD SPREAD
THROUGHOUT
THE LAND.



NOW
THEN...

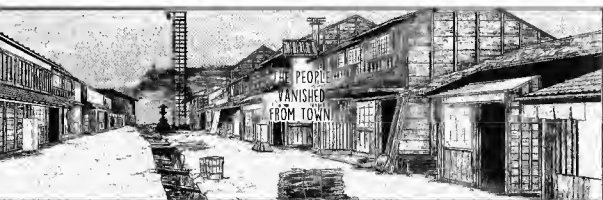
CLUNK



THE
SUN IS
RISING.

I'LL
RETREAT
BEFORE
I BUMP
INTO
ANIJA.

AL-
RIGHT.









JUST LIKE THE OUTSIDE, YOU'RE IN TATTERS ON THE INSIDE TOO.

THE DRUGS DID TERRIBLE THINGS TO YOU.



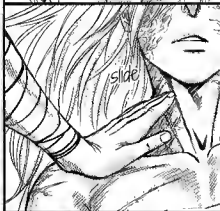
YOU'RE IN TATTERS.



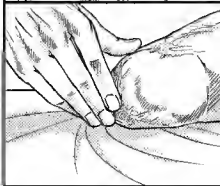
!



slide



slide



crack

AND YOU WERE SO BEAUTIFUL...

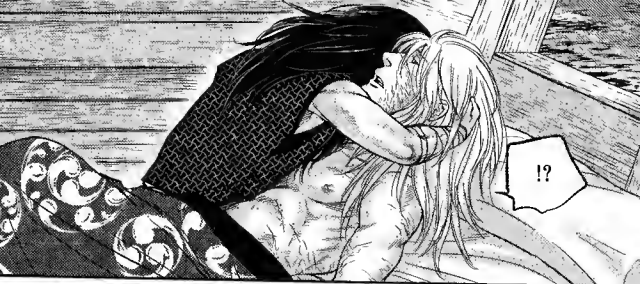


CAPTAIN...?



DAM-MIT!

THIS IS MY FAULT!



THIS IS
THE HARVEST
OF THE SEEDS
SOWN BY MY
OWN HANDS!

YOUR
FAULT,
ANIQA...?
HOW CAN
YOU SAY
THAT!?



I'M
THE
ONE
WHO'S
BEEN IN
LOVE
WITH YOU...
EVER
SINCE
WE
WERE
KIDS.



YOU'VE
GOT IT
BACK-
WARDS,
SAKIRA.



DIDN'T
YOU HEAR
FROM
FUTABA
AND THE
OTHERS...

WHY THE
FALSE
ORDERS
CAME
THAT DAY?

WHEN
YAMATO
FOUND OUT
I WAS SE-
CRETLY IN
LOVE WITH
YOU, ANIQA,
HE USED ME
AS A PAWN.

BECAUSE
OF THAT,
YOU,
TSUBAKI...
ALL OF
IT IS MY
FAULT.

NO!



I WANTED TO SLEEP WITH YOU, ANIJA.

AND YOU? IT WASN'T THAT, WAS IT?



I FELT THE SAME.



THAT'S WHY...

THAT'S WHY YOU LET ME GO.

BUT I THINK YOU'RE MISUNDERSTANDING SOMETHING. I WAS IN THE WRONG.



I DIDN'T WANT TO HAND YOU OVER TO ANYONE, AND ALWAYS KEPT YOU CLOSE.

YOUR EXISTENCE WAS SPECIAL TO ME.

SO THAT'S WHY I ACTED THE WAY I DID.



IMAGINING YOU WOULD DIE AND DISAPPEAR FROM MY WORLD. I NEVER AGAIN WANTED TO TASTE SUCH DESPAIR.

WHAT DO YOU THINK I WAS FEELING WHEN YOU WENT WEAK IN MY ARMS BACK THEN?



I WANTED TO MAKE LOVE TO YOU BUT WHEN I TRIED TO TOUCH YOU...

...I WOULD THINK OF YOU BEING RAPED PRACTICALLY TO DEATH...

AND I JUST COULDN'T DO IT.



A-
ANJA.



SENSAI.

SENSAI!



BUT..
SINCE
THINGS
TURNED
OUT THIS
WAY...



...MAYBE
WE SHOULD
HAVE MADE
LOVE



I'M
SORRY,
SAKIRA.



"NOW" IS
GOOD.

NOW...
NOW!

TAKE
ME WITH
YOU,
NOW!!

"IT'S
TIME."

SENSAI.



SCUFF

whishh



THE PORT,
THE TOWN,
THE MOUNTAINS,
THE CAPE... ALL
DESTROYED AND
DRAGGED DOWN
TO THE BOTTOM
OF THE SEA.

THE
OKINOKUNI
NAVY WAS
ENGULFED IN
THE BLINK
OF AN EYE.

COUNTLESS
SEAHORSES
EMERGED
FROM THE
OCEAN.

ONLY THE SHIP
WITH SABURO
AND THE OTHERS
WAS BUOYED ON
GENTLE WAVES.

THE SEAHORSE
CREW WENT ON
TO LEAVE THE SEA
OF HIGH TIDES AND
CARVE THEIR NAME
IN HISTORY AS
RULERS OF THE SEA.

WHAT
HAPPENED
"NOW"
IS AS
FOLLOWS:

END
EPISODE
THREE

千 — 螺旋の錠 —

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Sincerely, Okadaya Tetuzoh



